





Frequently Asked Questions



What are the symptoms of colon cancer?

Colon cancer might not cause symptoms right away, but if it does, it may cause one or more of these symptoms:

- A change in bowel habits, such as diarrhea, constipation or narrowing of the stool that lasts for more than a few days
- A feeling that you need to have a bowel movement that's not relieved by having one
- · Rectal bleeding with bright red blood
- Blood in the stool, which may make the stool look dark
- Cramping or abdominal (belly) pain
- Weakness and fatigue
- Unintended weight loss



What can you do to reduce your risk of colon cancer?

Scheduling regular colon cancer screenings per your doctor's recommendation reduces your risk.

Additional steps that may reduce risk are related to overall healthy lifestyle, including:

- Regular exercise
- Eating a high-fiber diet that includes plenty of fruits and vegetables
- Maintaining a healthy weight
- Reducing alcohol and tobacco use



What is the treatment for colon cancer?

Treatment for colon cancer is dependent on the severity (stage) of cancer at the time of diagnosis and may include surgery, chemotherapy, immunotherapy or other targeted treatments.

Our Services

The Denver Health Gastroenterology Lab does screening and diagnostic procedures to determine the issue at hand. Depending on the issue, a patient is referred to an appropriate specialist for treatment.

Screening and diagnostic procedures include:

- Colonoscopy
- Upper Endoscopy (also called esophagogastroduodenoscopy)
- Flexible Sigmoidoscopy
- Capsule Endoscopy
- Endoscopic Retrograde Cholangiopancreatography
- Endoscopic Ultrasound



Colon cancer affects men and women

equally.



Colon cancer develops in

1 out of 20

Americans who have no risks for this disease and have no symptoms.



Fortunately, we may be able to prevent

more than 90%

of colon cancers by carefully inspecting the colon for "polyps."