

WHAT IS COLON CANCER?



Sonya & Rene
colorectal cancer survivors

COLON (OR COLORECTAL) CANCER IS ONE OF THE MOST COMMON FORMS OF CANCER.

What is colon cancer?

Colon cancer is a disease in the colon, or large intestine. The colon is responsible for removing fluid and nutrients from the food you eat, then pushing the waste into the rectum, where it can be expelled from the body.

Rectal cancer is a disease that starts in the rectum. The term colorectal cancer includes disease that starts in either location.

The screening is the same for both: either a stool-based test or visual screening (colonoscopy).

Screening

Screening for average risk individuals should begin at age 45.

Those with a family history of polyps, colon, or rectal cancer should start 10 years prior to a loved one being diagnosed, or having a polyp found.

Talk to your health care provider about your family health history and any digestive symptoms you are experiencing to determine when screening should begin for you.

Screening can find cancer in its earliest and most treatable stages - saving lives.

1 IN 23

DEVELOPS COLON CANCER