

Sonya, 5+ year survivor
with her kids Mitchell
and Emma

**25% of all colorectal cancer patients
have a family history. And 5% of patients
have an inherited genetic condition.**



YOUR FAMILY HISTORY MAY MEAN AN INCREASED RISK FOR COLORECTAL CANCER

A family history of colorectal cancer or certain types of polyps means you should begin colonoscopy screening earlier than age 45. In fact, you should begin screening 10 years before the earliest known diagnosis of colorectal cancer or polyps in your immediate family.

But don't stop there. Share the results of your colonoscopy with your family. Your colorectal cancer and polyp history may impact your family's screening options and timeline.

Precancerous polyps and early-stage colon cancer often don't show any symptoms. Being screened on time is key to finding colorectal cancer early, when it is most treatable.

Questions to ask at the next family gathering:

- *"Have you had polyps removed during a colonoscopy?"*
- *"Has anyone in our family had colon, rectal, or any other types of cancer?"*

Types of hereditary Colorectal Cancer:

- Lynch Syndrome, or Hereditary Non-Polyposis Colon Cancer (HNPCC)
- Familial Adenomatous Polyposis (FAP)
- MYH Associated Polyposis (MAP)

A genetic counselor can help you assess your family history and what it means for your colorectal cancer risk. They can then guide you through any necessary steps or genetic testing.

