## PICK A TEST, GET IT DONE

## COLORECTAL CANCER SCREENING OPTIONS

Colorectal cancer is highly preventable and treatable. Yet 153,000 people are diagnosed with-and more than 52,000 people die from colorectal cancer each year in the United States. The key to improving these statistics is to ensure that every person completes a routine colorectal cancer screening test, which can stop the disease before it starts. The following graphic compares the available screening tests. UCLA Health physicians recommend patients have a colonoscopy or complete a FIT Kit.

**VIRTUAL** 

**COLONOSCOPY** 

This X-ray test uses

a CT scan to inspect

lining for polyps and

cancers. Patients must

still prep their bowels

Varies by insurance.

insurance deductible,

as well as physician

the day before.

This procedure

is subject to an

and facility fees.

Every 5

years, if

normal

the colon/rectum's

## PROCEDURES & RADIOLOGY TESTS

**SIGMOIDOSCOPY** 

A physician examines

of the patient's colon/

rectum for polyps and

Bowel prep is required.

cancers. Sedation is

not always needed.

Varies by insurance.

be covered, and are

less expensive than

diagnostic tests.

Screening tests must

the bottom portion

**FLEXIBLE** 

## **HOME TESTS**

WHAT IS IT?

**HOW MUCH DOES IT COST?** 



WHEN SHOULD IT BE REPEATED?

WHERE IS IT PERFORMED?

ARE THERE ANY RISKS OR **NEGATIVES?** 

Complications are rare but include bleeding, infection and bowel wall injury.

**WHO IS A GOOD** CANDIDATE FOR THIS TEST? COLONOSCOPY

The patient is sedated so a doctor can examine the inside of their colon and rectum for precancerous polyps and cancers. Bowel prep is required.

Varies by insurance. Screening tests must be covered, and are less expensive than diagnostic tests.

Every 10

years, if

**Outpatient** 

surgical

center or

normal

Every 5 years, if normal

H

Only the bottom

is examined.

Someone

who cannot

but wants to

find polyps.

be sedated

portion of the colon

H



surgical center or hospital

Outpatient surgical center or hospital

A CT scan cannot detect small polyps. If any polyps are found, colonoscopy is required.

option.

This test is OK if colonoscopy is not an

\*RECOMMENDED

A stool-based Fecal **Immunochemical** Test (FIT) can be performed at home and sent to a lab, which looks for trace amounts of blood.

at home and sent out for testing. The study looks for blood or DNA markers associated with colon/rectal cancer.

COLOGUARD

Stool is collected

Low cost option

Varies by insurance. Some plans cover the test, but others do not

**Annually** 

The patient's

home



Every 3 years, if normal



The patient's

No physical risks. A positive test means that a diagnostic colonoscopy is required.

Great option for people hesitant about colonoscopy, but it must be performed annually. No physical risks. Like FIT, a positive test means that a colonoscopy is required.

FIT is UCLA Health's preferred stoolbased test; however, Cologuard is available.



Scan or visit us at uclahealth.org/colon-cancer-screening to learn more.

Most people are

good candidates.

way to find and

This test is the best

remove polyps early.

