



Colorectal Cancer Facts¹

- ❖ Over 14,000 Californians are diagnosed with colorectal cancer every year.
- ❖ Over 5,000 Californians die from colorectal cancer each year.
- ❖ Colorectal cancer is the third most common cause of cancer-related deaths in California.
- ❖ Colorectal cancer affects both men and women.
- ❖ Colorectal cancer often has no symptoms until it is at an advanced stage.
- ❖ Most new colorectal cancer cases are diagnosed in adults age 50 and older, and the risk increases with age.
- ❖ Beginning at age 50 (or earlier if you have a family history), everyone should talk to a doctor about getting a screening test for colorectal cancer.
- ❖ Colorectal cancer is up to 90 percent preventable when diagnosed in its early stages.
- ❖ Early colon screening may allow for the removal of polyps before they develop into cancer.
- ❖ Lifestyle factors that may contribute to increased risk of colorectal cancer include obesity, low-fiber and high-fat diets, alcohol consumption, and tobacco use.

¹ California Cancer Facts and Figures, 2012