



## 2017 FACT SHEET

Colon & rectal cancers are referred to as “colorectal cancer” and abbreviated “CRC”

### **About Colorectal Cancer:**

- 2<sup>nd</sup> leading cause of cancer death among men & women combined
- 3<sup>rd</sup> most commonly diagnosed cancer
- 135,430 estimated new cases in 2017
- 50,260 estimated deaths in 2017
- 1 in 20 people will be diagnosed in their lifetimes
- 1 in 3 people are not up-to-date with screening
- 23 million people have not been screened
- 60% of deaths could be prevented with screening
- Screening is demonstrated to reduce new CRC cases and deaths from CRC

### **Hereditary/Genetic Stats:**

- People with a first-degree relative (parent, sibling or child) with colon cancer are between 2-3 times more likely to develop the cancer than those without a family history.
- 25% of people diagnosed with colorectal cancer have a family history.

### **Early-Onset (under 50) Incidence:**

- Data suggests that the incidence of colorectal cancer for those under 50 is on the rise and more young people are being diagnosed with colorectal cancer.
- 10-11% of colon cancers and 18% of rectal cancers are diagnosed in individuals under the age of 50
- Up to 22% of colorectal cancer cases diagnosed before the age of 50 are associated hereditary cancer syndromes; additional cases are related to inflammatory bowel disease.
- Colorectal cancers in individuals under 50 more likely associated with symptoms. Very important to take seek medical care for unexplained persistent rectal bleeding and other signs and symptoms.

### **Great Resources:**

American Cancer Society:

<https://cancerstatisticscenter.cancer.org/#/cancer-site/Colorectum>

National Cancer Institute:

<http://seer.cancer.gov/statfacts/html/colorect.html>