

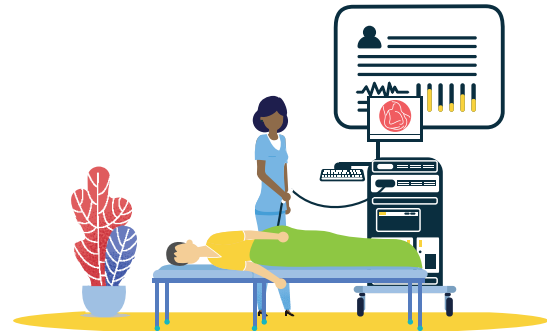
# WHAT IS COLORECTAL CANCER?






Colorectal cancer is cancer that occurs in the colon or rectum.

## COLORECTAL CANCER SCREENING TESTS

FOR AVERAGE-RISK PATIENTS

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**YOU HAVE OPTIONS**



What type of test?	What are the details?
 <b>Colonoscopy</b>	A thin tube with a light, camera, and surgical tools is placed into the rectum and colon. A colonoscopy should be done <b>once every 10 years</b> .
 <b>Flexible Sigmoidoscopy</b>	A thin tube with a light, camera, and surgical tools is placed into the rectum and lower colon.
 <b>Virtual Colonoscopy</b>	X-rays are used to take pictures of the colon.
 <b>Stool Sample Test</b>	Tests a stool sample for blood or DNA (or both) from colorectal cancer. Some types of stool sample tests should be done once a year. Other types should be done at least every 3 years, or more often if your doctor recommends.
 <b>Blood test</b>	An FDA-approved blood test can be done for people who choose not to take a stool sample test or visual screening procedure.

**Health care providers recommend routine screening starting at age 45, or earlier if you are at higher risk.**

Talk to your health care provider to figure out which type of screening and screening frequency is best for you.