

COLORECTAL CANCER

Colorectal cancer is the leading cause of cancer death in Puerto Rico and third among US Hispanics



A colorectal cancer screening educational program.



What is Colorectal Cancer?

Colorectal cancer is a cancer of the large intestine. It begins when cells in the colon or rectum grow out of control and form a polyp. Polyps can turn into cancer.

Screening tests for colorectal cancer

Some tests can detect changes in the colon and rectum before they turn into cancer and detect cancer early.



Stool-based tests

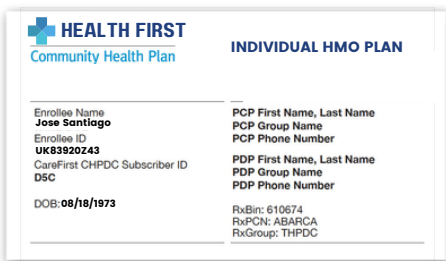
Stool-based tests are used to find blood in the stool. Blood in the stool may be a sign of polyps or colorectal cancer. Samples for these tests can be collected at home and returned to your doctor. Stool-based tests must be done annually.



Colonoscopy

A colonoscopy is a test done in a doctor's office where the doctor can see the inside of your rectum and the entire colon using an instrument with a small camera. A colonoscopy can help find polyps or cancer. This exam should be done every 10 years.

The cost of stool-based tests and colonoscopies is covered under many health insurance plans, both public and private.



José's Story:

dramatized case

"Hi, I'm José. Last year I had a stool-based test and it was positive. Then they did another test: the colonoscopy. In the colonoscopy, they found some polyps that were removed immediately. The doctor told me that because of the colonoscopy, I was able to prevent colorectal cancer. The colonoscopy saved my life!"



Remember:

Anyone can get colorectal cancer even if they don't have symptoms. All people over the age of 45-75 should be tested. If you have a family history, you should start testing at age 40 or as recommended by your doctor.

Colorectal cancer tests can prevent cancer.



Talk to your health care provider about colorectal cancer and which screening test is best for you.

Don't leave it for later. Make your appointment today.

Remember: Prevention today, better life tomorrow!



This program was developed by the University of Puerto Rico and MD Anderson Cancer Center Partnership for Excellence in Cancer Research Outreach Program with funding from the National Cancer Institute/National Institutes of Health under Grant U54CA096297/ CA096300. The content is solely the responsibility of the authors and does not necessarily represent the official views of the National Institutes of Health. The blood stool test kit image was created and obtained from the National Cancer Institute (www.cancer.gov). This document was revised on 8/23/2022 to reflect updated guidelines.

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HEALTH FIRST Community Health Plan	INDIVIDUAL HMO PLAN
Enrollee Name Jose Santiago	PCP First Name, Last Name
Enrollee ID UK83920243	PCP Group Name
CareFirst CHPDC Subscriber ID DSC	PCP Phone Number
DOB: 08/18/1973	PDP First Name, Last Name
	PDP Group Name
	PDP Phone Number
	RxBin: 610674
	RxPCN: ABARCA
	RxGroup: THPDC



Rosa's Story:

dramatized case

"Hi, I'm Rosa. Last year I had a stool-based test and it was positive. Then they did another test: the colonoscopy. In the colonoscopy, they found some polyps that were removed immediately. The doctor told me that because of the colonoscopy, I was able to prevent colorectal cancer. The colonoscopy saved my life!"



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