

# Colon Cancer

CDC works 24/7 to save lives and protect people.

This month's Vital Signs reports that about 23 million adults ages 50 to 75 haven't gotten the life-saving tests they need to find colon cancer early. This is really important. Every year, more than 50 thousand Americans die from colorectal cancer, and yet, testing could have prevented most of those deaths. Testing can find precancerous growths, called polyps, so they can be removed *before* they turn into cancer. Testing also helps find colorectal cancer at an early stage, when treatment can lead to cure.

If you're 50 or over, get tested. If you're younger than 50 and have a family history of colorectal cancer or polyps or other risk factors, talk with your doctor about getting tested.

The Affordable Care Act *requires* insurance coverage of all colorectal cancer testing at no cost, and that's great for you. There're different types of screening tests. Talk with your doctor about which one is right for you. The *best* test is the test that gets done.