

OPEN ACCESS COLORECTAL CANCER SCREENING

Screening, or testing, is done while you are feeling well – to detect, or find, any abnormalities early, before signs and symptoms of disease occur. Screening for colorectal cancer allows for the early detection of cancer when it is highly curable, as well as the detection of growths, or polyps, that could become pre-cancer.

Colorectal cancer is the second leading cancer killer in the U.S., and 90% of colorectal cancer deaths are preventable.

EDDC now offers "Open Access Colorectal Cancer Screening" to healthy patients. For your convenience, a separate consultation visit at the physician's office is no longer required, saving you time, effort and money. In addition, we will schedule your colonoscopy at the date and time that best fits your schedule.

Open Access Colorectal Cancer Screening is for patients between 45 and 70 years old without gastrointestinal symptoms, who are generally in good health (see below), who have not been previously screened or who were screened with colonoscopy more than 10 years ago, and without any history of precancerous polyps. Any patient who wishes to meet the physician prior to the date of the procedure is encouraged to make a clinic appointment by calling 713-704-3332. Those patients who do not feel it is necessary to meet the physician may call our procedure scheduling team at 713-704-3402. Please note: You will be asked to provide a referral and your last Clinic Note in order to schedule a clinic visit or your procedure.

Eligible patients should meet the following criteria:

- Age 45-70 with no prior screening colonoscopy or whose last screening colonoscopy was more than 10 years ago and without any history of precancerous polyps.
- No previous problems with anesthesia.
- No anticoagulant/antiplatelet drugs (Coumadin, Plavix, etc.). No valvular heart disease, including mitral valve prolapse (with murmur).
- No disease of the heart, brain, lungs, liver, or kidney systems requiring active medical treatment. No uncontrolled disease conditions.
- No chronic use of narcotics, benzodiazepines, or other sedatives.
- No gastrointestinal symptoms (a formal consultation in the physician's office is indicated in patients with symptoms, although a colonoscopy may eventually be part of the evaluation).

If you are not eligible for open access, we will schedule a clinic visit for you prior to having your colonoscopy procedure scheduled.

Please provide:

Name _____ Date of Birth _____

Daytime Phone number _____

Insurance name _____ Insurance ID _____

Group # _____

FAX This Form to: 713-704-5959 ATTN: Open Access Scheduling

Email This Form to: OpenAccessRefFax@memorialhermann.org