What is colorectal cancer?

Colorectal Cancer occurs in the colon or the rectum and usually starts from precancerous polyps. A polyp is a growth that shouldn’t be there and, over time, may turn into cancer.

Who gets colorectal cancer?

- If you are age 50 to 75 you should get screened for colorectal cancer.
- Found most often in people ages 50 and older.
- The risk increases with age.
- Colorectal cancer is the second leading cancer nationwide for American Indians/Alaska Natives.

Who should get screened?

Screening can prevent colorectal cancer by detecting and removing polyps. Polyps are abnormal growths on the inside of the colon and the most likely areas where colon cancer develops.

If caught early, abnormal polyps can be treated and you can avoid developing invasive colon cancer.

Screening options...

The U.S. Preventive Services Task Force recommends several screening options including:

- Colonoscopy
- Flexible Sigmoidoscopy
- CT Colonography

- Fecal Immunochemical Test (FIT)
- High Sensitivity Fecal Occult Blood Test (FOBT)
- FIT-DNA Test

Completed in clinic
Completed in home

Talk with your doctor about what screening option is right for you.

Colorectal Cancer in Northwest Tribes

Colorectal cancer incidence per 100,000 population, 2008-2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Population</th>
<th>Incidence Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>American Indian</td>
<td>46.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alaska Native</td>
<td>51.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Hispanic</td>
<td>36.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CRC = Colorectal Cancer

Source: IDEA-NW, NP AIHB

March 24th 2021 is Blue Beads Day!

Blue Beads Day is the American Indian/Alaska Native National Colorectal Cancer Awareness Day.

Wear blue beadwork or clothing to raise colorectal cancer awareness in Indian Country and encourage loved ones to get screened. Take a photo of yourself and post to social media using the hashtags below!

#BlueBeadsforCRC
#GetBehindCRC Screening

Join Us!

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