



The Canadian Association of Gastroenterology Guidelines on **Colon Cancer Screening**

Colorectal cancer is the second deadliest form of cancer in Canada for men and women, second only to lung cancer. Beginning at age 50 the Canadian Association of Gastroenterology recommends screening, which may include F.O.B.T., X-Ray, Endoscopy or a combination.

For others listed below, the following approaches apply:

No affected family member



Begin screening
at age 50

1 first-degree relative
with cancer or polyp at
age < 60 or 2 or more
first-degree relatives
affected with polyp or
colon cancer at any age



Colonoscopy every 5
years beginning at age
40 years or 10 years
earlier than the youngest
diagnosis of polyp or
cancer in the family,
whichever comes first.

1 first-degree relative
affected at age > 60
or 2 or more **second-
degree relatives**
with cancer



Average-risk screening,
but beginning at age 40.
Could include F.O.B.T.,
X-Ray, Endoscopy or a
combination.

**1 second-degree
relative or third-
degree relative**
affected



Average-risk screening
beginning at age 50.
Could include F.O.B.T.,
X-Ray, Endoscopy or a
combination.

First degree relative = parent, child or sibling.

Second degree relative = grandparent, aunt or uncle, nephew, niece.

Third degree relative = cousin, great grandparent, great grandchild.

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Canadian Association
of Gastroenterology
www.cag-acg.org



The Colorectal Cancer Screening
Initiative Foundation
www.screencolons.ca

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