

Guide to the Colon Cancer Screening Action Kit

This Colon Cancer Screening Action Kit is an integral component of the Colon Cancer Screening Campaign to decrease colon cancer deaths in New York City. It includes clinical tools, resources for providers, and patient education materials. We hope you use these materials to ensure that all recommended patients are referred for colonoscopy. The materials in your Action Kit include:

CLINICAL TOOLS

- **Adult Preventive Care Flow Sheet:** To help the office monitor and document physical examinations and test results, counseling, and immunizations.
- **Birthday Reminder Cards:** Send to patients who have recently turned 50 or older to remind them to make an appointment for a colonoscopy referral.
- **General Referral for Colonoscopy:** A handy referral form.
- **“Is Colon Cancer Screening Needed?” Chart Stickers:** Use in the medical record as a prompt. Ask the receptionist, medical assistant or nurse to place one at the top of the visit notes.

RESOURCES FOR PROVIDERS

- **“Colonoscopic Screening of Average-Risk Women for Colorectal Neoplasia”:** New England Journal of Medicine, May 19, 2005 – Vol. 352, No. 20. Provides evidence that colonoscopy may be the preferred method of screening for colorectal cancer in women.
- **Health Bulletin #15 – “Take Care New York”:** Details ten important steps every New Yorker can take to improve their health.
- **Key Preventive Services for Adults:** A physician’s guide to key preventive services for adults.
- **Low-Cost Colonoscopy Programs:** Lists programs that provide low-cost colonoscopy or fecal occult blood testing (FOBT) for uninsured patients.
- **Materials Request Form:** Request additional materials from your Health Department Representative.
- **“Preventing Colon Cancer”:** City Health Information, March 2003 – Vol. 22, No. 2. Outlines New York City-specific guidelines for colon cancer screening and answers frequently asked questions about screening and prevention.
- **“Screening for Colorectal Cancer”:** Journal of American Medical Association, July 9, 2003 – Vol. 290, No. 2. New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene recommends colonoscopy as the preferred method of screening for colon cancer.

PATIENT EDUCATION MATERIALS

- **Easel Display/Patient Brochures:** “Get Checked. 50 or Older? Get a Colonoscopy to Prevent Colon Cancer.” Provides information on colon cancer and highlights the importance of colonoscopy.
- **Health Bulletin #4 – “Get Checked for Colon Cancer”:** If you’re 50 or older, or at high-risk, get a colonoscopy to prevent colon cancer.
- **Palm Cards:** Recommends colonoscopy for people 50 and older.
- **Take Care New York – Passport to Your Health:** Helps patients keep track of their preventive care.
- **Wall Posters:** “Get Checked.” Highlights the importance of getting a colonoscopy for people 50 and older.