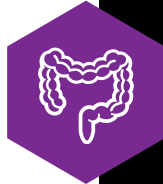




COLON CANCER & CYSTIC FIBROSIS

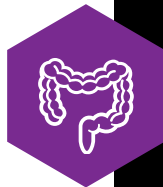
HIGHER RISK FOR CANCER

- People with CF are **5-10 times more likely** to develop colon cancer.
- Individuals with CF post-lung transplant have **25-30 times the risk**.
- **CF carriers are also more likely** to develop colon cancer.



COLON CANCER IS PREVENTABLE THROUGH SCREENING

Polyps form in the large intestine. While generally not cancerous, these polyps can turn into colon cancer over time. Early detection and removal of polyps can prevent cancer.



GET SCREENED EARLY

Early detection is key. CFRI believes the current recommended age of 40 for people with CF for one's first colonoscopy (30 post-transplant) is too late. Don't be afraid to advocate for an early screening.



COLON CANCER SYMPTOMS

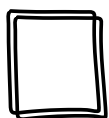
- More frequent diarrhea or constipation
- Rectal bleeding or blood in the stool
- Ongoing discomfort in the belly area
- A feeling that the bowel does not fully empty during a bowel movement
- Weakness or tiredness
- Losing weight without trying



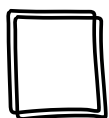
A MESSAGE FROM ANNA PAYNE: UNDERSTAND YOUR RIGHTS AS A PATIENT



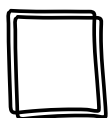
TALKING TO YOUR DOCTOR ABOUT COLON CANCER SCREENING



SYMPTOMS: Because people with CF often experience issues that mimic colon cancer, you are entitled to a colonoscopy despite your age. If you have symptoms, talk to your doctor about getting screened.



COLONOSCOPY PREP: Physicians may cite that undergoing a colonoscopy is more complicated for someone with CF. There are ways to make bowel cleansing easier; don't let a few extra steps prevent you from getting screened.



INSURANCE COVERAGE: To receive a colonoscopy at a younger age, your insurance company may ask for a letter of medical necessity from your doctor. Print out this flyer to show your doctor or other CF Care Team provider when discussing colon cancer screening.

“If you have symptoms, don't write them off as the usual CF GI issues. Go and get screened. You may end up saving your own life.”

- Anna Payne

READ MORE ABOUT ANNA'S STORY AT
WWW.CFRI.ORG/ACOLONOSCOPYCANSAVEYOURLIFE

STAY INFORMED & VISIT WWW.CFRI.ORG/COLON-CANCER FOR MORE INFORMATION