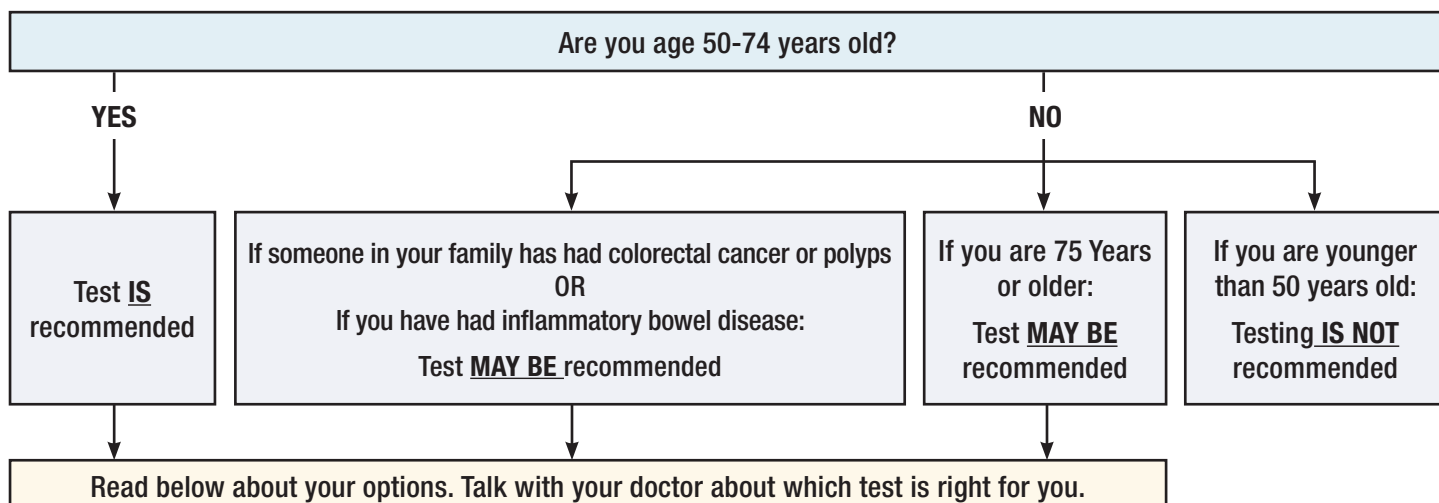


Choosing the Right Colon Cancer Screening Test



STOOL TEST*

Key Facts

- Reduces death from colorectal cancer by detecting cancers early
- Safe, available, and easy to complete
- Done on your own at home
- Finds cancer early by finding blood in the stool
- Finds most cancers early when done every year

Things to Consider

- Test may be positive even if you do not have polyps or cancer in the colon
- If the test is positive, you will have a colonoscopy to look for problems
- In home testing requires collecting a small stool sample using test kit provided, then mailing or taking to your doctor's office or lab for processing

*Stool test = Guaiac Fecal Occult Blood Test (FOBT)
or Fecal Immunochemical Test (FIT)

COLONOSCOPY

Key Facts

- Reduces risk of death by 60% by detecting colorectal cancer early
- Can prevent cancer by removing polyps (or abnormal growths in the colon) during test
- Looks at the entire colon
- Finds most cancers or polyps that are there when the test is done
- Done at least 10 years or as recommended by your doctor

Things to Consider

- Stomach pain, cramping, or bloating is possible before, during, or after test
- Test is done at a hospital or clinic, and you will probably receive light sedation so that you are comfortable
- You will need someone to drive you home after the test and may need to take the whole day off to rest
- You will take medicine to clear out your colon the day before. You will also only drink clear liquid. This can cause pain, bloating and diarrhea while your colon clears.
- Small risk of serious complications like bleeding or perforated colon

Please ask your doctor about other screening tests that are available.

