



## **Please Support HB20-1103 Colorectal Cancer Screening Reps Buckner, Will & Larson, Sens Fields & Priola**

Colorado law requires insurers to provide preventive colorectal cancer (CRC) screenings at age 50. Recent science backed by the American Cancer Society (ACS) recommends screening from 45, due to higher CRC incidence among under 50s. When screening results are positive, patients are often charged a diagnostic fee.

**HB20-1103** will:

- Lower the screening age from 50 to 45 (*per ACS guidelines*)
- Include the Medicaid population in the requirement
- Prohibit a diagnostic fee for a preventive colonoscopy following an abnormal non-invasive test (eg FIT)

### **Why 45?**

CRC has grown 51% among 20-49s since 1994. Incidence for a 45 year-old today is the same as a 50 year-old in the early 90s

Absent screening, diagnoses among <50s are often 'late stage' when treatment is less effective and costs ~5x more than early stage. Typical late stage treatment costs \$618k per patient vs \$132k for early stage (Source: AM J Manag Care 2015 21(7): E430-438)

Half of all CRC diagnoses in Colorado are late stage, rising to two-thirds for 45-49 year olds

### **Why Screen for Colorectal Cancer?**

CRC is highly preventable and treatable when caught early. Increased screening has resulted in a 40% drop among the 50+ age group since 1987 (Source: EER 9 delay-adjusted rates, 1975-2012)

ACS believes screening from 45 may cut 45-49 year-old CRC deaths in half - without adding new screens into the system

Adding 45-49 year-old Coloradans to the CRC screening mandate will save lives and cut late stage healthcare costs.

### **Did you know?**

Early stage 5-year survival rates are 90% vs 10% at Stage 4

Catching just 10% of CRC diagnoses earlier could **save at least \$74m** in Colorado-based treatment costs over 4 years and protect more Coloradans from cancer (Source: AM J Manag Care 2015 21(7): E430-438 data combined with incidence from Colorado Central Cancer Registry)

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## **COLORECTAL CANCER IN COLORADO**

- ✓ **Cancer is Colorado's leading cause of death**
- ✓ **Colorectal Cancer (CRC) is the 2<sup>nd</sup> biggest cancer killer of women and men in the U.S. and Colorado**
- ✓ **Colorado had an estimated 1,940 new CRC cases and 660 deaths in 2019**
- ✓ **CRC incidence among <50s in Colorado is rising**
  - **+3.2% for men**
  - **+10.8% for women**
- ✓ **CRC is now the fastest growing young female cancer in Colorado and the single biggest cancer killer of young men in the USA**
- ✓ **Through screening, over a third of cancer deaths could be prevented or found earlier**



Incidence and late stage data:  
<https://statecancerprofiles.cancer.gov/recenttrend> and  
Colorado Central Cancer Registry