

WNC Colorectal Cancer screening initiative



The American Cancer Society states that regular colorectal cancer is largely preventable. Screening is one of the most powerful tools for preventing colorectal cancer. They estimate 40 out of 100 deaths from late stage colorectal cancer are preventable if all adults aged 45 and older are routinely screened.

The **WNC Colorectal Cancer Screening Initiative (WNC CRCSI)** provides vital colorectal cancer screening to patients **between ages 45 and 75** in **Buncombe, Henderson, Madison, Mitchell and Yancey** counties who are **average risk, uninsured, and low-income**.

Participating community health centers provide qualifying patients with a **free fecal immunochemical test (FIT)**. Patients with a **positive FIT** receive a **colonoscopy with no out-of-pocket cost**.

Some WNC CRCSI patients may **qualify for Project Access**. Project Access patients can obtain hospital-based endoscopy services, colonoscopy, anesthesia, pathology and cancer treatment services at no cost.

To qualify for Project Access, patients must be:

- **under 65 years of age**
- **below 138% FPL**
- **and have been residents of Buncombe or Madison counties for at least one year**

Patients with a **positive FIT who don't qualify for Project Access** also receive a **colonoscopy with no out-of-pocket cost**. If the **colonoscopy is positive**, the patient is **enrolled in a charity care program** at a local hospital to receive **low-cost surgery and cancer care**.

Speak to your doctor for more information on how to receive a free colorectal cancer screening.

Call Western North Carolina Community Health Services (WNCCHS) to make an appointment.

(828) 285-0622

WNC CRCSI Partners

