

# Colon Cancer Prevention Awareness

Did you know according to the New England Journal of Medicine that Colon Cancer is the 2nd leading cancer killer in the United States? Precancerous polyps, meaning abnormal growths, can be present in the colon for years before invasive cancer develops. However, they may not cause any symptoms. This happened to my wife and she was diagnosed with Stage III Colon Cancer at the early age of 42.

Did you know that colon cancer is also one of the most commonly diagnosed cancers in the United States? At least 6 out of every 10 deaths from colon cancer could be prevented if all men and women aged 50 years or older were screened routinely.<sup>1</sup>

So what can you do about it? Colon cancer screening<sup>2</sup> can find precancerous polyps so they can be removed before they turn into cancer. In this way, colon cancer is prevented. Screening can also find colon cancer early, when there is a greater chance that treatment will be most effective and lead to a cure.

Speak with your doctor about when you should begin screening and how often you should be tested. This is one cancer you can prevent.

Screening saves lives. It saved my mom's so get screened today!

Brought to you by Tom and Madisyn Parker.

## References

<sup>1</sup>Whitlock EP, Lin JS, Liles E, Beil TL, Fu R. [Screening for colorectal cancer: a targeted, updated systematic review for the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force.](#)<sup>2</sup> *Annals of Internal Medicine* 2008;149(9):638–658.