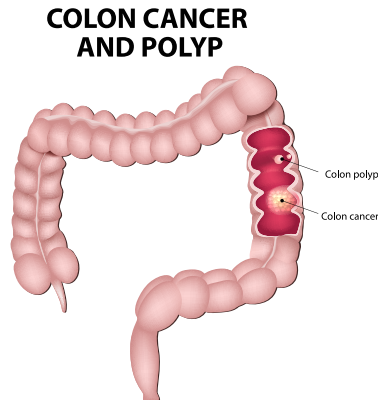


## What is Colorectal Cancer?

Colorectal cancer is very common, yet it is one of the most preventable types of cancer. It is often curable when detected early.

## What is Colorectal Cancer?

Colorectal cancer is a cancer that starts in the colon (large intestine) or rectum (the end part of the large intestine leading to the anus). Most cases of colorectal cancer begin as small, noncancerous (benign) clumps of cells called polyps. Over time, some of these polyps can become cancers.



## What are the risk factors?

One major risk factor is aging. The great majority of people diagnosed with colon cancer are **older than 50**. Colon cancer can occur in younger people, but much less frequently.

Other risk factors include personal history of colon cancer or polyps, family history of colon cancer (especially in a first-degree relative), inflammatory intestinal conditions (Ulcerative colitis, Crohn disease) and some genetic syndromes

## What are the symptoms?

In early stages, there are generally **no symptoms**.

In more advanced stages, symptoms may include blood in the stool, abdominal pain, change in bowel habits (diarrhea or constipation), or change in the shape or size of the stools.

## Can Colorectal Cancer be prevented?

Yes, colorectal cancer can be prevented by removing precancerous polyps. Polyps are benign wart-like growths that grow on the inner lining of the colon or rectum and can, if not removed, become cancerous.

## How can we prevent Colorectal Cancer?

Screening tests can find polyps so they can be removed before they turn into cancer. The development of more than 75-90 percent of colorectal cancer can be avoided through early detection and removal of pre-cancerous polyps.

## What are the screening options?

Colonoscopy is the preferred test to screen for colorectal cancer. Colonoscopy is a test that consists in introducing a colonoscope (tube with camera) into the rectum and colon to look for abnormalities on the lining such as polyps. Other tests such as checking for blood in the stool and imaging studies of the colon are also options for screening.



## Who should be screened?

Individuals who are 50 years old or above should be screened for colorectal cancer.

Anyone with a personal or family history of colon polyps or colorectal cancer, and anyone with inflammatory bowel diseases (Ulcerative colitis, Crohn disease).



## Colorectal Cancer

For any questions or clarifications do not hesitate to call your doctor or call Endoscopy unit

Contact info:  
+961 1 364283  
ext: 1299