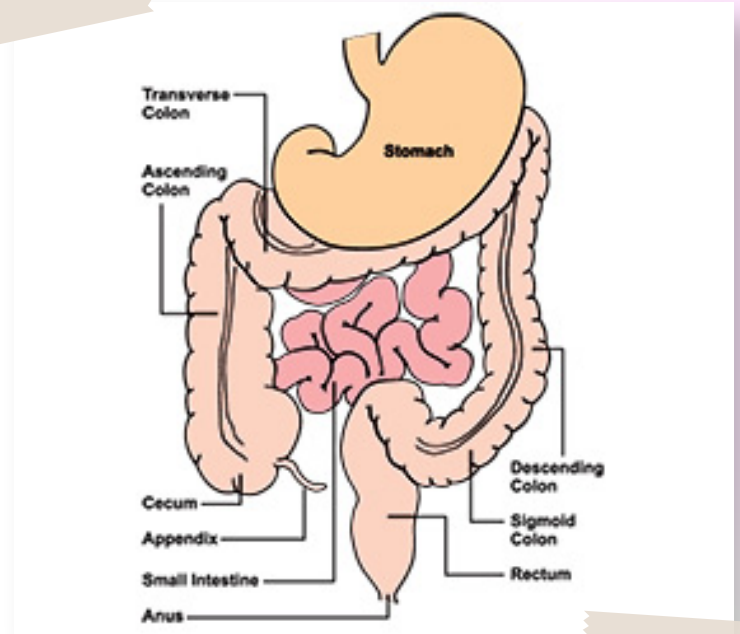


COLON CANCER

The large bowel is part of the digestive system and consists of the colon and rectum. The colon soaks up extra water from your stool (poop) and the rectum pushes stool out of the body.

Colon cancer can form in any part of the colon, which is the lower part of the digestive system. Rectal cancer can form in the rectum, which is the last 15 centimeters of the large bowel. Together they are often called “colorectal cancer” or “bowel cancer”. There are different treatments for colon cancer and rectal cancer.



THE FACTS:

- Colon cancer is the second most commonly diagnosed cancer in Canada and the second leading cause of cancer death, after lung cancer.
- When it is detected early, 9 out of 10 people can be cured.
- Screening is done on people who are at risk of getting colon cancer but who have no symptoms and feel fine. All Canadians over the age of 50 should be screened for colon cancer.
- If you have a family history (parent, brother, sister, or child) who had colon cancer, then you should be screened at age 45.
- Talk to your doctor about a new, easy to perform test called the F.I.T. (fecal immunochemical test) which is now available.

FOR MORE INFO:

www.cancercareontario.ca/en/types-of-cancer/colorectal/screening

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