



# A SIMPLE ACTION. A BIG IMPACT.

## WHY IS CANCER SCREENING IMPORTANT?

According to the American Cancer Society, cancer screening increases the chances of catching certain cancers early, when they are most likely to be treated successfully.<sup>1</sup> Almost 610,000 people are expected to die from cancer in 2018, **yet many of those lives could have been saved through earlier detection.**<sup>2,3</sup>

### DID YOU KNOW?

Despite the longstanding ability to detect cervical cancer early through screening, **less than half** (46%) of all cervical cancer cases are diagnosed at the local stage, when the 5-year survival rate is **92%**.<sup>1</sup>

– American Cancer Society

Unfortunately, screening rates for breast, cervical and colorectal cancer in recommended populations have either become stagnant or declined in recent years (2010-2015), lagging behind Healthy People 2020 goals set by the federal government.<sup>5</sup>

## WHAT IS CANCER SCREEN WEEK?

Cancer Screen Week is a public health initiative founded by Genentech, the American Cancer Society, Stand Up To Cancer and Rally Health to elevate public awareness and foster understanding of the potentially lifesaving benefits of cancer screening. This nationwide initiative will be December 3 through December 7, 2018, with a collaborative effort to drive action around cancer screening. It will take place annually in the first week of December each year.

## HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?

- Visit [www.CancerScreenWeek.org](http://www.CancerScreenWeek.org) to learn more about the potentially life saving benefits of cancer screening and download helpful resources for talking with your doctor.
- Spread the word about Cancer Screen Week and join the collective effort to save more lives from cancer.

# WHO SHOULD BE SCREENED FOR CANCER?



Many of the common cancers may be caught early with screening and have recommended guidelines for those who are considered most at-risk. Learn more about the tests and screening guidelines recommended by the American Cancer Society, and talk with a healthcare professional about your risk for cancer and the best screening plan for you.



## BREAST CANCER

A regular mammogram is one of the most important things a woman can do to find breast cancer early – when it's small, hasn't spread, and may be easier to treat.<sup>6,7</sup>

- ✓ Women ages 40 to 44 should have the choice to start annual breast cancer screening with mammograms if they wish to do so.
- ✓ Women ages 45 to 54 should get mammograms every year.
- ✓ Women 55 and older should switch to mammograms every two years, or can continue yearly screening.
- ✓ Screening should continue as long as a woman is in good health and is expected to live 10 more years or longer.
- ✓ A small percentage of women are at a higher risk for breast cancer and should be screened with MRIs along with mammograms.



## CERVICAL CANCER

The Pap test can help catch cervical cancer early, when it's small and may be easier to treat. It can also prevent cervical cancer by finding pre-cancerous cells so they can be treated before they become cancer. The human papillomavirus (HPV) test finds HPV infections which may increase the risk of cervical cancer.<sup>8</sup>

- ✓ All women should begin cervical cancer screening at age 21. Women aged 21-29 should have a Pap test every three years.
- ✓ Women over 30 should get an HPV test done at the same time as their Pap test. They should have these tests every five years.
- ✓ Even if a woman has gotten the HPV vaccine, she still needs to get regular Pap and HPV tests.
- ✓ Women over age 65 who have had regular screening in the past 10 years with normal results should not be tested for cervical cancer.



## COLORECTAL CANCER

Colorectal cancer can often be prevented or found at an early stage, when it's small and may be easier to treat, with regular screening.<sup>9,10</sup>

- ✓ People 45 or older and at average risk should be screened regularly for colorectal cancer. There are several effective tests available. People at higher risk may need to start screening at a younger age and have it more frequently.<sup>11</sup>



## LUNG CANCER

Lung screening is done with an annual low-dose CT scan (LDCT) of the chest.<sup>12</sup> Screening can help find cancer early, when it's small and may be easier to treat.<sup>1</sup>

- ✓ Screening is recommended for people 55 to 74 years of age who are in good health, and have at least a 30 pack-year smoking history AND are either still smoking or have quit within the last 15 years.<sup>12</sup>



## PROSTATE CANCER

Prostate cancer can often be found early using a simple blood test, but it's not clear if the benefits of testing all men for prostate cancer outweigh the risks, such as finding (and treating) cancers that probably never would have caused any problems.<sup>13</sup>

- ✓ Starting at age 50, men should talk to a healthcare provider about the pros and cons of testing so they can decide if testing is the right choice for them.<sup>13</sup>
- ✓ African American men or men who have a father or brother who had prostate cancer before age 65 should discuss prostate cancer screening with a healthcare provider starting at age 45.<sup>13</sup>



## SKIN CANCER

Some people have a higher risk of getting skin cancer than others, but anyone can get melanoma and other types of skin cancer. Although the American Cancer Society does not have screening guidelines for skin cancer, knowing your own skin is important to finding skin cancer early.<sup>14</sup>

- ✓ Know the pattern of moles, blemishes, freckles, and other marks on their skin to notice any new moles or changes in existing moles.
- ✓ Regular skin exams by a healthcare professional are especially important for people who are at higher risk of melanoma, such as people with many unusual moles, people with a strong family history of melanoma, and people who have had melanoma before.

### REFERENCES

1. American Cancer Society. Cancer Facts & Figures 2018. Atlanta: American Cancer Society; 2018. Available at: <https://www.cancer.org/research/cancer-facts-statistics/all-cancer-facts-figures/cancer-facts-figures-2018.html>. Accessed Jan. 8, 2018.
2. National Cancer Institute. Cancer Screening Overview (PDQ®) Health Professional Version. Available at: <https://www.cancer.gov/about-cancer/screening/hp-screening-overview-pdq>. Accessed Jan. 8, 2018.
3. American Cancer Society. Cancer Screening Guidelines 2017. Available at: <https://www.cancer.org/healthy/find-cancer-early/cancer-screening-guidelines.html>. Accessed Jan. 8, 2018.
4. National Cancer Institute Trends Progress Report. Available at: <https://progressreport.cancer.gov/trends>. Accessed Jan. 8, 2018.
5. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Healthy People 2020. Available at: <https://www.healthypeople.gov/2020/topics-objectives/topic/cancer>. Accessed Jan. 8, 2018.
6. American Cancer Society. American Cancer Society Recommendations for the Early Detection of Breast Cancer. Available at: <https://www.cancer.org/cancer/breast-cancer/screening-tests-and-early-detection/americancancer-society-recommendations-for-the-early-detection-of-breast-cancer.html>. Accessed Jan. 8, 2018.
7. American Cancer Society. Breast Cancer Screening Resources. Available at: <https://www.cancer.org/cancer/breast-cancer/breast-cancer-screening-resources.html>. Accessed Jan. 8, 2018.
8. American Cancer Society. How to Prevent Cervical Cancer or Find it Early. Available at: <https://www.cancer.org/latest-news/cervical-cancer-testing-can-find-it-early-and-even-prevent-it.html>. Accessed Jan. 8, 2018.
9. American Cancer Society. Five Myths About Colorectal Cancer. Available at: <https://www.cancer.org/cancer/colon-rectal-cancer/detection-diagnosis-staging/detection.html>. Accessed Jan. 8, 2018.
10. American Cancer Society. Can Colorectal Polyps and Cancer Be Found Early? Available at: <https://www.cancer.org/cancer/colon-rectal-cancer/detection-diagnosis-staging/detection.html>. Accessed Jan. 8, 2018.
11. American Cancer Society. American Cancer Society Guideline for Colorectal Cancer Screening; 2018. Available at: <https://www.uspreventiveservicestaskforce.org/Page/Document/RecommendationStatementFinal/lung-cancer-screening>. Accessed Jan. 8, 2018.
12. U.S. Preventive Services Task Force. Final Recommendations Statement Lung Cancer: Screening. Available at: <https://www.uspreventiveservicestaskforce.org/Page/Document/RecommendationStatementFinal/lung-cancer-screening>. Accessed Jan. 8, 2018.
13. American Cancer Society. American Cancer Society Guidelines for the Early Detection of Cancer. Available at: <https://www.cancer.org/healthy/find-cancer-early/cancer-screening-guidelines/americancancer-society-guidelines-for-the-early-detection-of-cancer.html>. Accessed Jan. 8, 2018.
14. American Cancer Society. Can Melanoma Skin Cancer Be Found Early? <https://www.cancer.org/cancer/melanoma-skin-cancer/detection-diagnosis-staging/detection.html>. Accessed Jan. 8, 2018.