

AFTER COLORECTAL CANCER SCREENING

Getting your results –

Ask your provider how you will be notified of the results.
Ask when you should expect to learn the results.

If the result is “Negative” –

A negative test indicates that there were no signs of cancer detected.
Ask your provider when you should be screened again.

If the result is “Positive” –

A positive screening test indicates that something may be wrong.

It does not automatically mean you have cancer.

Talk with your provider and ask what the next steps will be. Your provider may perform a physical exam and evaluate your health history. You may have blood tests done. Often, a colonoscopy will be ordered.



Next steps –

If the next step is to see a specialist:

Ask how to make that appointment. Do you call the specialist or does the specialist call you?

Make an appointment. And keep that appointment—it’s important.

If the next step is a procedure such as a colonoscopy:

Ask how to make that appointment.

You will need someone to drive you home.

A colonoscopy requires special preparation. Your bowel needs to be “cleaned out” before a colonoscopy. The preparation usually includes a special diet, nothing to eat immediately before the procedure, and bowel prep or an enema. A colonoscopy cannot be done properly if your bowel is not “clean”.

After the procedure -

Ask how you will be notified of the results and when.