

# For Your Health

## Colorectal Cancer Screening

At Aetna, we believe there is nothing more important than your health. That's why we're pleased to give you information to help you manage your health.

Read on to learn more.

Other than skin cancer, colorectal cancer is the third most common cancer found in men and women in this country. The American Cancer Society estimates that there will be about 106,680 new cases of colon cancer and 41,930 new cases of rectal cancer in 2006 in the United States. Combined, they will cause about 55,170 deaths. The older you get, the more likely you are to develop colorectal cancer.<sup>1</sup>

If you are age 50 or older, you should be tested for colon cancer.\*

- Most colon cancers occur in men and women who are 50 and older.
- Screening tests can find growths before they turn to cancer.
- If you get checked and you do have cancer, the earlier you and your doctor treat the cancer the better. It is curable if found and treated early.
- There is more than one way to get tested. You and your doctor should choose the test that's best for you.

### Learn About Your Colon Cancer Testing Options

For more information, call the American Cancer Society at 1-800-ACS-2345 or watch the video at [www.cancer.org/Colon-Link](http://www.cancer.org/Colon-Link).

#### Questions to ask your doctor\*\*

- I'm over 50 — should I get tested for colon cancer?
- I've read that there's more than one test for colon cancer. Which one do you think is right for me?
- How is the test done? How do I prepare for it? What will happen to me, and how will it feel?
- Now that I'm 50, what other tests for cancer should I have?

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<sup>1</sup>Information provided by the American Cancer Society Accessed on March 8, 2006 at the following link: [http://www.cancer.org/docroot/CRI/content/CRI\\_2\\_2\\_1X\\_How\\_Many\\_People\\_Get\\_Colorectal\\_Cancer.asp?sitearea=](http://www.cancer.org/docroot/CRI/content/CRI_2_2_1X_How_Many_People_Get_Colorectal_Cancer.asp?sitearea=)

\*Recommended by the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force and the American Cancer Society. Speak with your doctor about being checked earlier or more often if you think you're at a high risk for colorectal cancer.

\*\*Recommended and provided by the American Cancer Society.

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