

VA COLORECTAL CANCER SCREENING

for American Indian/Alaska Native Veterans

Screening For Colorectal Cancer Saves Lives

Colorectal cancer is common and lethal. Regular screening can detect colorectal cancer and even prevent it.

Did you know that American Indians/Alaska Natives serve in the U.S. Armed Services at a higher rate than any other ethnic group? There are approximately 160,000 American Indian/Alaska Native Veterans, and while nearly 66,000 of them utilize VA health care, they are less likely to be up to date on colorectal cancer (CRC) screening.

VA is building culturally informed environments conducive to healing. VA is delivering the health care and benefits that American Indian/Alaska Native Veterans deserve and earned.



**American Indian/
Alaska Native Veterans**
receiving care with VA have a higher
screening rate for colorectal cancer
than their civilian counterparts.

What Does This Mean For You?

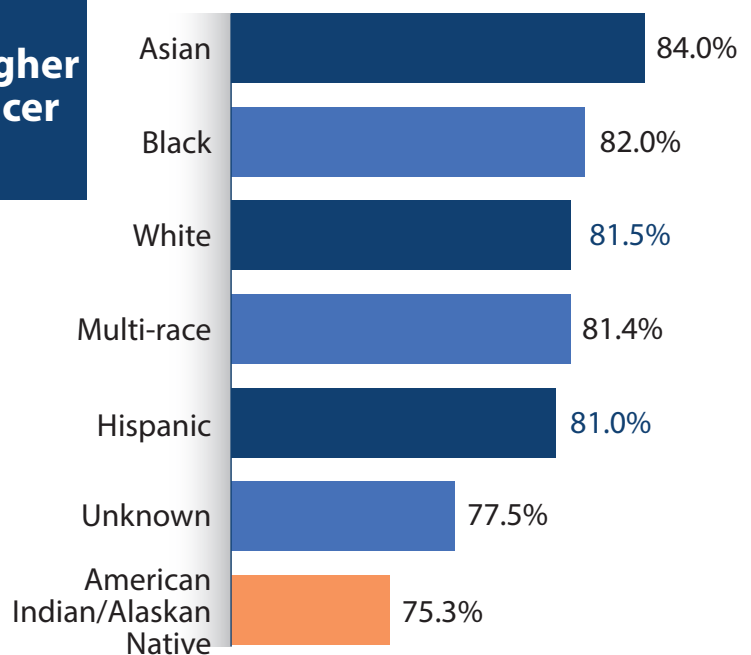
Screening should begin at age 45 for average-risk individuals and at age 40 for individuals with a family history of colorectal cancer.

There are 2 main screening options available through VA:

- > **Fecal Immunochemical test (FIT) (Performed every year)**
- > **Colonoscopy (Performed every 10 years)**

Delays in screenings mean delays in timely diagnoses. This is why it is so important to get your screening scheduled.

Percent of Veterans Screened for CRC



Learn more about VA benefits specific to American Indian/Alaska Native Veterans: