



**Wisconsin  
Cancer  
Collaborative**  
REDUCING THE BURDEN TOGETHER



# COVID-19, Cancer Screening, & Routine Vaccines

*What steps can we take to ensure patients are still getting the cancer screenings and vaccines they need?*

*June 11, 2020*

# *Before we get started...*

The **Wisconsin Cancer Collaborative** is a statewide coalition of **140 organizations** working together to reduce the burden of cancer **for everyone** in Wisconsin.

We connect our members with the **tools**, **support**, and **knowledge** they need to create healthier communities.

## Wisconsin Cancer Plan 2015-2020



[www.wicancer.org](http://www.wicancer.org)



# Agenda

- *Wisconsin COVID-19 Update – DHS*
- *Immunizations during COVID-19*
- *Cancer Screening during COVID-19*
- *Q&A*
- *Closing Remarks*

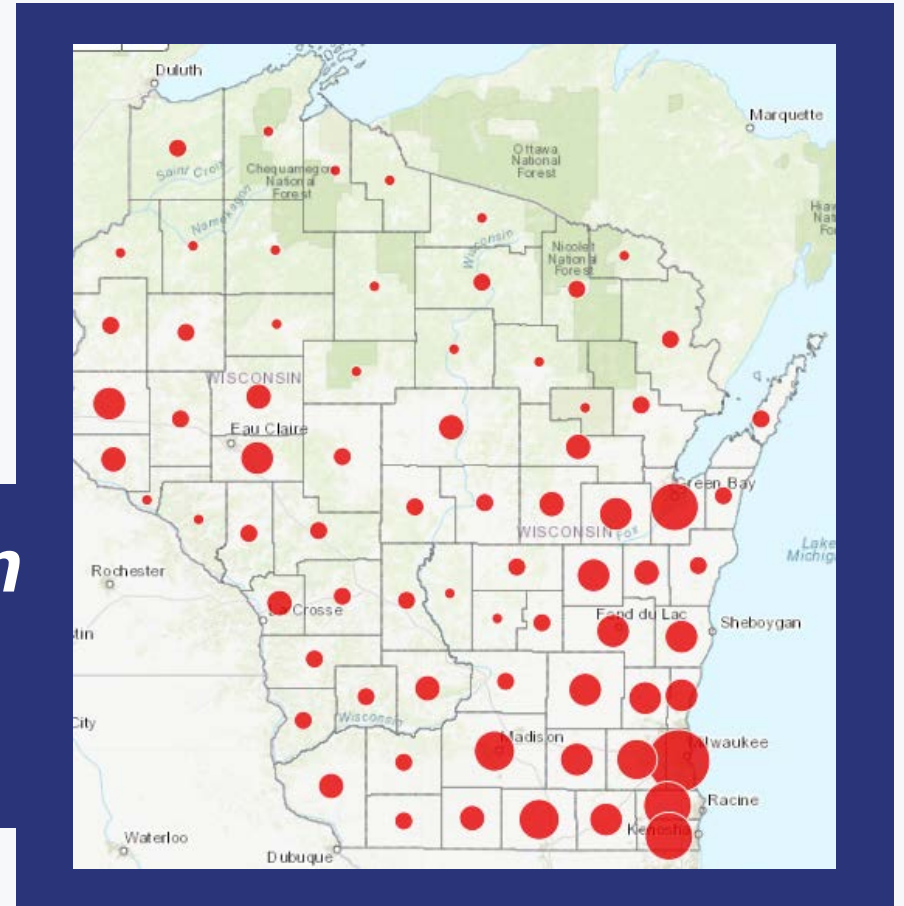
# Wisconsin Update

Dr. Mark Wegner, Chronic Disease Medical Advisor, Division of Public Health

As of June 9<sup>th</sup>, Wisconsin has:

- 347,210 negative test results
- 21,308 positive test results
- 2,904 hospitalizations
- 661 deaths

*All 72 Wisconsin counties have positive cases*

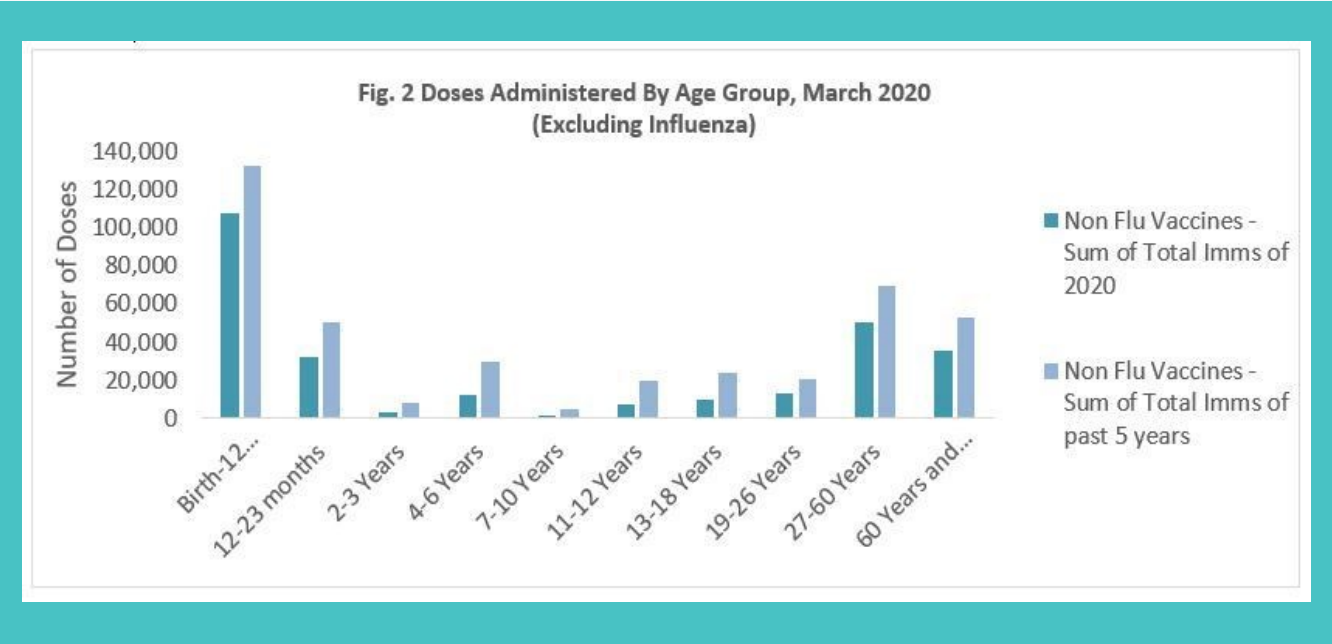
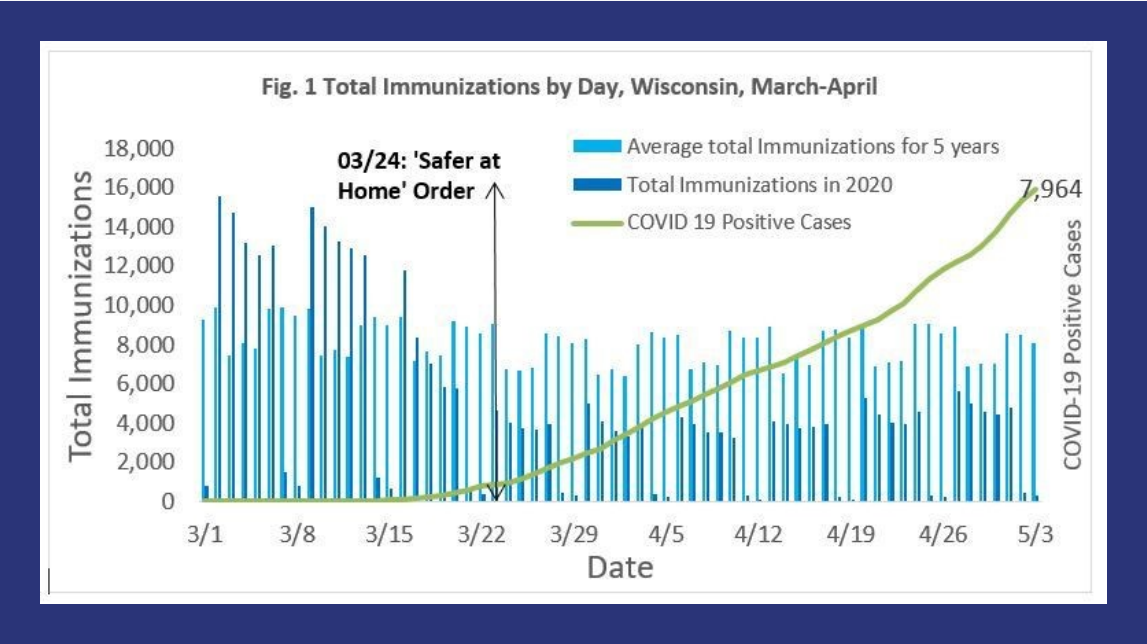


# Wisconsin Update

*Dr. Mark Wegner, Chronic Disease Medical Advisor, Division of Public Health*

**COVID-19 disproportionately impacts certain communities in Wisconsin**

# Routine Immunizations are down



Source: Wisconsin Department of Health Services, Division of Public Health  
Data: Wisconsin Immunization Registry (WIR)

# Why is a cancer coalition is bringing this up?

## Immunizations...

Vaccinating now prevents further outbreaks

Reduce the burden on our medical systems & public health infrastructure

Can prevent co-infections

Hepatitis B & Human Papillomavirus Vaccines prevent cancer

Help us protect those we love



# Recommendations to Continue Vaccinating

- Ensure **proper PPE** and **sanitization** for staff and patients
- Scheduling well visits in the morning and sick visits in the afternoon.
- Separating patients **spatially**
- Collaborating with other providers in the community to **identify separate locations** for holding well visits for children.
- **Lowering the number of patients** on site at any one time.
- Considering **different entrances in your clinic** that sick and well patients may enter.





# Recommendations to Continue Vaccinating Cont'd

- Telling **patients who are ill to use telemedicine** or a phone call.
- Vaccinating during **sick visits** for minor illnesses such as ear infections (but not when COVID-19 is suspected)
- Examining patients and **giving vaccines via "car visit"**
- Referring **high-risk adults to pharmacies** who can give vaccines at less busy times to keep them safer.
- Assessing the vaccination status of all patients at each patient visit and utilize appropriate **catch-up schedules**



# Vaccines and Cancer Prevention

- Continue testing pregnant mothers for HBsAg+
- Continue to vaccinate infants with Hepatitis B vaccine
- HPV vaccine is still important, even if you can't vaccinate adolescents right now
  - Provider education
  - Review or clean up your EHR and/or IIS data
  - Prepare for the backlog of well child/back-to-school visits once visits start up again
  - Reminder Recall
  - Work on policy changes

# Don't Forget Your Flu Shot

**ABOUT**  
**40%**

ON AVERAGE FLU VACCINES  
HAVE REDUCED THE RISK OF FLU  
HOSPITALIZATIONS AMONG  
ADULTS BY ABOUT 40%.

**#FIGHT FLU**

# Member Experience – Cancer Screening

*How are some WI Cancer Collaborative members handling cancer screening in the wake of COVID-19?*



## WI Well Woman Program

Dawn Shelton-Williams

*Patient Navigator, Aurora Family Service*



## Access Community Health Center

Elissa Sprecher

*Population Health Specialist*



# Aurora Family Service's Wisconsin Well Woman Program – Social Work Navigation

Wi Cancer Collaborative Webinar: COVID 19, Cancer Screenings, and Routine Vaccines



Thursday, June 11, 2020

Dawn Shelton-Williams, MSW, LCSW

# Patient Navigation is...

- ❖ A component of the Wisconsin Well Woman Program
- ❖ A strategy aimed at reducing disparities by helping clients overcome barriers to accessing and completing cancer screening and diagnostic services
- ❖ “Individualized assistance offered to clients to help overcome healthcare system barriers and facilitate timely access to quality screening and diagnostics as well as initiation of treatment services for persons diagnosed with cancer.” - NBCCEDP

# Patient Navigation Services

- ❖ Social work assessment / screening for challenges and barriers to breast and cervical cancer screenings; diagnostic follow up; and initiation to cancer treatment
- ❖ Patient health services navigation and community systems navigation
- ❖ Care coordination and advocacy
- ❖ Linkage to community based resources to address challenges/barriers
- ❖ Provide health education on the importance of breast and cervical cancer screenings and on the availability of patient navigation at Advocate Aurora Health Care
- ❖ Community Outreach
  - Identification of women for patient navigation services
- ❖ Work collaboratively with patient's care team (integrated within care team)



# Contact Information

Aurora Family Service

[Dawn.Shelton-Williams@aah.org](mailto:Dawn.Shelton-Williams@aah.org)

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# Screening for Colorectal Cancer Amid COVID-19

# Clinical Approach:

- Our respiratory clinic is now located at our William T. Evjue Clinic. This site offers respiratory care, essential medical care, behavioral health, dental care and pharmacy services.
- We reopened our Joyce & Marshall Erdman Clinic for essential medical care, behavioral health services, dental care and pharmacy services.
- We have continued to provide interpreter services. All our Spanish interpreters are located at our administration building to conserve PPE.

# Colorectal Screening Proposed Plan:

- Who:
  - Patients on pay-for-performance contract lists with payors, ages 50 to 75 at average risk of colorectal cancer and due for screening.
- Outreach Method:
  - Support staff to outreach to patients overdue for screening on pay-for-performance contract lists. For patients agreeable to be screened, support staff would mail patient a FIT kit; see workflow.
- Cost:
  - Estimated cost of mailing the FIT kit is \$2.00 per kit. The potential cost to mail the FIT kits is as follows:
  - All patients on outreach lists overdue for screening (568) = \$1,136
  - 30% of patients on outreach lists overdue for screening (170) = \$340
    - 30% is the average percentage of patients who will respond or answer the call.

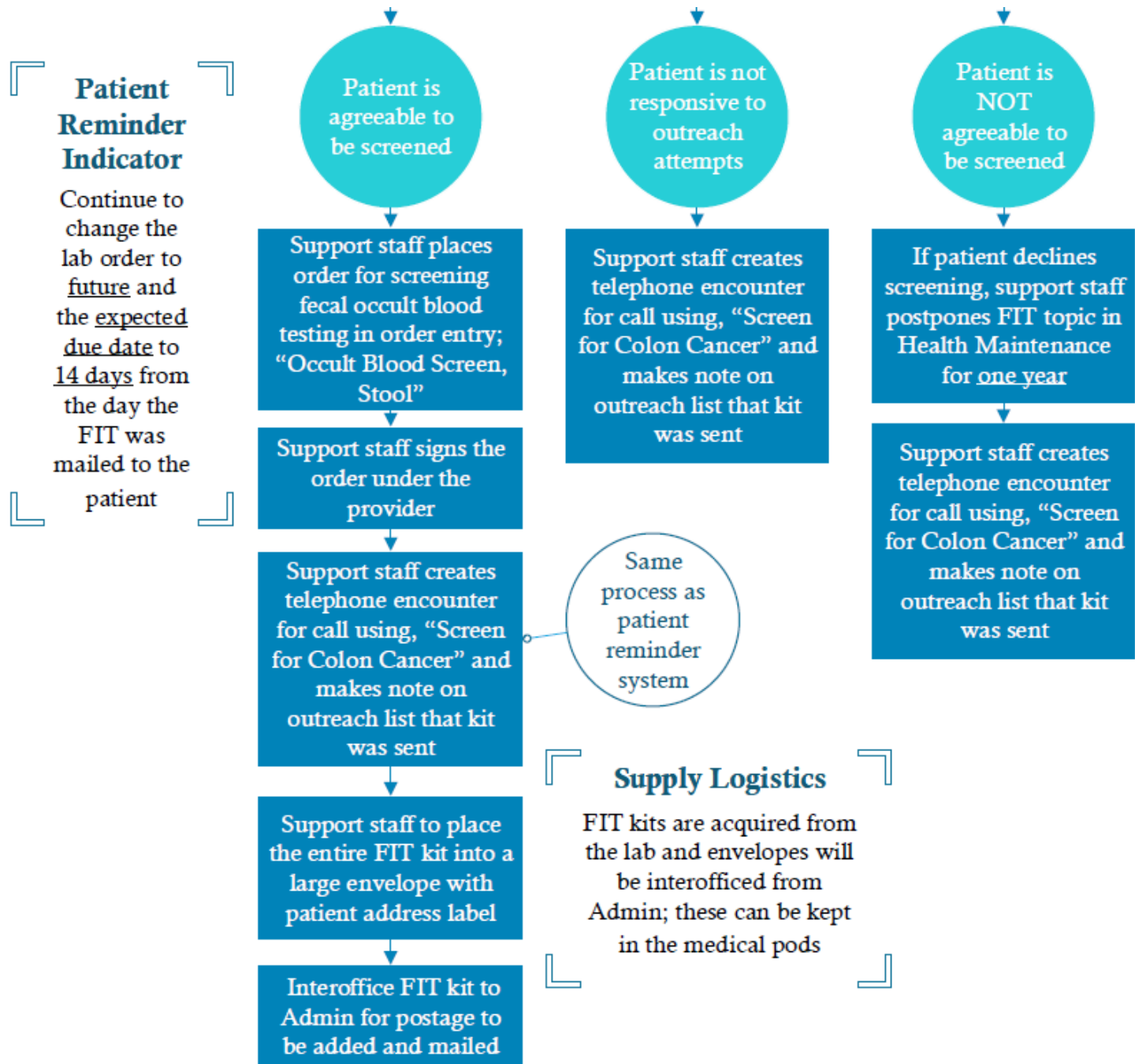
# Access Community Health Centers: Colorectal Cancer Workflow Post COVID-19



Patient is identified as  
due for colorectal  
cancer screening from  
list generated in Azara  
DRVS

Support staff references Health  
Maintenance and Care Everywhere to  
confirm patient is due for colorectal  
cancer screening

Support staff calls  
patient or sends  
message in MyChart, if  
applicable



# Initial Pilot for Colorectal Cancer Screening Outreach:

- Who:
  - Beginning with a 20 patient sample from Quartz pay-for-performance list, ages 50 to 75 at average risk of colorectal cancer and due for screening.
- Outreach Method:
  - “Cold mail” FIT kits to established patients from outreach sample with letter/infographic from the clinic.
  - Track patients to see how many returned their sample.
  - Conduct follow-up calls 14 days after kit was received.

This initial assessment will help us determine if we need support staff to make calls or if the FIT kits can just be sent during this time.



# We're Here to Help



## COLORECTAL CANCER PREVENTION: TEST KITS DELIVERED TO YOUR DOOR

As we all do our part to fight the Covid-19 pandemic, Access is here to meet your health care needs. While maintaining social distancing is still crucial to lessening the impact of Covid-19, it is also important to make sure your routine health care needs are met.

### WHAT IS COLORECTAL CANCER?

Colorectal cancer is cancer of the large intestine and rectum. It is a type of cancer that, oftentimes, offers no symptoms.

### WHO NEEDS TO BE TESTED?

Everyone aged 50-75 years old. If older than 75 years old, ask your doctor if you should be screened.

### WHAT DO I DO?

To help provide a safe way for you to get screened for colorectal cancer, we enclosed a FIT kit that you can do at home and mail to our clinic for testing.

The enclosed kit has instructions for how to use the kit and how to send it back to us to be tested. Since you will be completing this kit at home instead of in our clinic, you will use the collection papers rather than a plastic collection tray. Review the included instructions and please call us at (608) 443-5480 if you have any questions about colorectal cancer screening or how to complete your FIT Kit.



# Questions?

Access Community Health Centers

Elissa Sprecher, Population Health Specialist

[elissa.Sprecher@accesshealthwi.org](mailto:elissa.Sprecher@accesshealthwi.org)

***Thank you!***

***QUESTIONS?***

# How-to Sheets - Health literacy tools for patients

## 5 Tips to Help You Prevent Cancer

Many cancers can be prevented or cured if you find them early.

### 1. See your doctor every year

#### At your yearly check-up:

- Ask the doctor what tests you need to check for cancer.
- Ask what other activities or health services can help lower your risk of cancer.

Yearly check-ups are free with most health plans. If you don't have health insurance you can go to a free clinic or community health center. Dial the 2-1-1 Helpline to find a clinic near you.

### 2. Eat a healthy diet, exercise and maintain a healthy weight

#### What can I do?

- Exercise regularly. For example, a brisk walk about 20 minutes a day.
- Eat a diet with lots of fruits and vegetables.
- Limit red and processed meats (lunch meat, hot dogs, etc.)

Lower your cancer risk

#### Need Help?

Talk to your doctor. If you are having trouble with your weight, extra help from your doctor or a specialist may be free with health insurance.

### 3. Get an HPV (Human papillomavirus) shot for yourself or your child

#### The HPV shot is important for:

- All boys and girls ages 11 and 12 for best protection
- Anyone up to age 26 who did not get the vaccine as a pre-teen

Talk to your doctor.

This shot is free with most health insurance. If you don't have health insurance you may be able to get the shot for free from your local public health department.

The HPV shot

For more information go to: [www.cancer.org](http://www.cancer.org)

## Prevent Breast Cancer

Find breast cancer early with regular testing.

### What is breast cancer?

Breast cancer is when cells in the breast grow out of control. The cells usually form a tumor or lump you can see with an X-ray or sometimes feel.

It is important to find and treat this disease early before it spreads to other parts of the body.

### Who needs to be tested?

Age	What to do
Under 40	Talk to your doctor
40 - 49	Talk to your doctor
50 - 74	Get a mammogram every 2 years
75+	Talk to your doctor

### Who should get tested early?

You have a higher risk of breast cancer if:

- You or someone in your family has had breast cancer
- You had radiation therapy to your chest or breast
- You had your 1st menstrual period before age 12
- You had your 1st baby before age 30, or never had a full term pregnancy
- Your mother used DES estrogen treatment to prevent miscarriage, and you were born between 1940-1971

⚠️ If someone in your family has had breast cancer, talk with a doctor about getting tested early.

## Prevent Cervical Cancer

Cervical cancer can be cured when found early!

### Who needs to be tested?

Women ages 21-65

### What type of test and how often?

You can get tested for cervical cancer at your yearly check-up or at an OB-GYN visit. There are 2 kinds of tests:

#### 1. Pap test

This test looks for pre-cancer cells in the cervix.

#### 2. HPV test

This test looks for a virus called HPV (human papillomavirus). The HPV virus can lead to cervical cancer.

Age	Type of test	How often
21-29	Pap test	Every 3 years
30-65	Pap test or Pap + HPV test	Every 3 years
		Every 5 years
65+	Don't need to be tested if: • Had regular tests for last 10 years • No serious pre-cancer found in last 20 years	

⚠️ You may need to be tested more often if you:

- Had an abnormal Pap in the past.
- Have a weak immune system. For example: HIV infection, organ transplant or long-term steroid use.
- Your mother used DES estrogen treatment to prevent miscarriage, and you were born between 1940-1971.

There are free or low-cost test options.

### What is the cervix?

The cervix is often called the neck. It's part of the reproductive organs.

It connects the womb (uterus) to the vagina.

## Find Colon Cancer Early With a Stool Test

Colon (or colorectal) cancer is treatable. It can be cured when found early!

### 1. Who needs to get tested?

Everyone aged 50-75 years old.

Colon cancer is the 2nd most common cause of cancer death in Wisconsin. It can be cured when found early!

### 2. What are the most common tests?

Talk to your doctor to find the best test for you. Some tests you can even do at home.

**FIT test** (Fecal Immunochemical Test). Repeat every year.

Where?	What?	Next Step?
At home	Put small bit of poop in the kit	Mail or bring to doctor's office

**Stool DNA test** (brand is Cologuard®). Repeat every 3 years.

Where?	What?	Next Step?
At home	Poop in the kit	Mail to the lab

**Colonoscopy**. Repeat every 10 years.

Where?	What?	Next Step?
At a hospital or clinic	A camera looks at your colon. You may get drugs that make you sleepy.	Someone will need to take you home.

## Prevent Lung Cancer

Lung cancer is Wisconsin's #1 cause of cancer death for both men and women.

### 1. Quit smoking

Quitting smoking is the best way to lower your risk of lung cancer. Lung function improves 2-3 months after quitting.

#### Need help?

Call **1-800-QUIT-NOW** (1-800-784-8669). They have free support over the phone and can get you a free 2 week sample of nicotine gum, patches, or lozenges.



#### Do you have health insurance?

You can get free counseling and medications to help you quit. Call your insurance company for more information.

### Not ready to quit now?

Take these small steps to change:

- **Cut down** the number of cigarettes. Smoke 1 or 2 less a day.
- **Use medications** to help you smoke less. Try lozenges, gum, or the patch.
- **Stop smoking in certain places:** home, car, breaks, or at work.
- **Delay the 1st cigarette of the day**

For more help and information: Go to [www.ctri.wisc.edu](http://www.ctri.wisc.edu)

### 2. Talk to your doctor about testing for lung cancer

This test can catch lung cancer earlier in heavy smokers. The earlier lung cancer is found, the better your chances for survival.

Talk to your doctor to see if this test may be a good idea for you.

#### Who should consider this test?

- You have a history of heavy smoking. Example: 1 pack a day for 30 years or more. Or, 2 packs a day for 15 years or more.
- And smoke now or quit within the last 15 years
- And are between the ages of 55-80

#### Do you have health insurance?

You can get this test free with health insurance.



⚠️ If you have ever smoked, you may need to get tested younger.

Talk to your doctor.

### Test for radon in your home

Radon is a radioactive gas that comes from the earth. It can cause lung cancer. 1 in 10 homes in Wisconsin have high levels of radon.

If your home has high radon levels, smoking makes you 10 times more at risk for getting lung cancer.

You can buy a testing kit at most hardware stores for about \$10 - \$20.

#### Need help?

Go to [www.lowradon.org](http://www.lowradon.org) or call 1-888-569-7236.




# New Resource – We've added more!

## Check out the NEW ADDITIONS to our COVID-19 & Cancer social media tool-kit!

**What can COVID-19 mean for cancer patients?**

- More severe infections
- More likely to need intensive care
- More likely to need a ventilator
- Three times more likely to die (depending on cancer type)

It's simple. Social distancing saves lives.




Wisconsin Cancer Collaborative  
[wicancer.org/resources/covid19](https://wicancer.org/resources/covid19)

**Social Distancing Saves Lives**

You can protect the lives of cancer patients.

**Wear a mask - it's an act of love.**

#COVID19 #Coronavirus



Wisconsin Cancer Collaborative  
[wicancer.org/resources/covid19](https://wicancer.org/resources/covid19)

**Protect Cancer Patients from COVID-19**

COVID-19 can be deadly for people with cancer.

Cancer and its treatment weaken the immune system. This means people with cancer have a harder time fighting off infections.

**Help cancer patients by staying safe at home.**



Wisconsin Cancer Collaborative  
[wicancer.org/resources/covid19](https://wicancer.org/resources/covid19)

**How to protect your friends & neighbors from COVID-19**

Did you know? You can be contagious even if you have no symptoms of COVID-19.

**Protect the lives of your friends & neighbors:**

- Stay home as much as possible
- Stay at least six feet away from others when you leave home
- Wear a mask when you leave your home



Wisconsin Cancer Collaborative  
[wicancer.org/resources/covid19](https://wicancer.org/resources/covid19)

**How your community can protect cancer patients from COVID-19**

Three ways you can help your community protect cancer patients from COVID-19:

- Ask local officials to maintain social distancing policies
- Encourage your favorite businesses to require masks for employees & customers
- Educate your loved ones about the importance of staying safe at home

**Cancer does not stop for a pandemic. Together, we can save lives.**



Wisconsin Cancer Collaborative  
[wicancer.org/resources/covid19](https://wicancer.org/resources/covid19)



# July Networking Webinar - Registration Open!

## “COVID-19 & Cancer Risk Reduction”

*How has COVID-19 impacted **cancer risk reduction behaviors**, like healthy eating, physical activity, and alcohol use, for example? Join us as we take a look at some of these behaviors, with a **special emphasis on how alcohol** use impacts cancer risk and how Wisconsin’s alcohol landscape has evolved in midst of the COVID-19 pandemic.*



**10:00-11:00**



**Register here:** <https://wicancer.org/events/webinars/>

# Resources

## Immunization Action Coalition:

- [Repository of Resources for Maintaining Immunization during the COVID-19 Pandemic](#)

## Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

- [Healthcare Professionals: Frequently Asked Questions and Answers](#)
- [Maintaining Childhood Immunizations during COVID-19 Pandemic](#)
- [Vaccination Recommendations during COVID-19 Pandemic](#)
- [Vaccine Guidance During a Pandemic](#)