

# USPSTF recommends CRC screening for 50- to 75-year-olds

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(HealthDay)—The U.S. Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF) recommends colorectal cancer (CRC) screening starting at age 50 years and continuing through age 75 years. These findings form the basis of a draft recommendation statement, published Oct. 5 by the USPSTF.

Researchers from the USPSTF conducted a systematic review of the evidence relating to screening for CRC. They examined the effectiveness or [comparative effectiveness](#) of screening tests on CRC incidence and mortality; diagnostic accuracy of screening tests; and harms of screening.

The USPSTF recommends CRC screening for [adults](#) aged 50 to 75

years; variation was seen in the risks and benefits of different screening methods (grade A recommendation). For adults aged 76 to 85 years, the decision to screen for CRC should be an individual one based on patient health and prior screening history (grade C recommendation). The draft recommendation statement is available for public comment from Oct. 6 through Nov. 2.

"Colorectal cancer [screening](#) is a very effective, but underused, health promotion strategy in the United States," USPSTF member, Douglas K. Owens, M.D., said in a statement. "The evidence is clear that adults ages 50 to 75 years will substantially benefit from getting screened, but about one-third of these people have never done so."

**More information:** [Evidence Review](#)  
[Draft Recommendation Statement](#)  
[Comment on Recommendations](#)

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