Colorectal screening rates do not differ by 10-year life expectancy in seniors

December 6 2023, by Lori Solomon

Personalized colorectal cancer (CRC) screening based on individual life expectancy may increase the value of CRC screening programs, according to a study published online Oct. 27 in the American Journal of Gastroenterology.
Po-Hong Liu, M.D., from the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center in Dallas, and colleagues examined receipt of past-year CRC screening according to predicted 10-year mortality risk among 25,888 community-dwelling, older adults (ages 65 to 84 years) who were not up-to-date with screening.

The researchers found that the prevalence of past-year CRC screening was 39.5, 40.6, 38.7, 36.4, and 35.4 percent from the lowest to highest quintile of 10-year mortality risk. There were no significant differences observed in the odds of CRC screening between adults in the lowest versus highest quintile (adjusted odds ratio, 1.05; 95 percent confidence interval, 0.93 to 1.20).

More than one-quarter (27.9 percent) of past-year CRC screening occurred in adults with life expectancy.

Citation: Colorectal screening rates do not differ by 10-year life expectancy in seniors (2023, December 6) retrieved 21 December 2023 from

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