

Is Fighting LCCRT COLORECTAL CANCER In Louisiana



Problem

Colorectal cancer (CRC) is the **4th** leading cause of cancer deaths in the US when men and women are combined and the **4th** leading cause of cancer deaths in Louisiana. Currently, Louisiana ranks **5th** in the nation for colorectal cancer deaths and **3rd** in the nation for incidence of the disease. Although CRC incidence and death rates are high, this disease is preventable and **90% survivable when found early. More than 50% of the cases of colorectal cancer in Louisiana are diagnosed at a late stage**, thereby, leading to a high death rate from the disease. While late stage diagnosis is a major contributor of high colorectal cancer death rates, screening and early detection saves lives.

Solution

Screening is the best way to prevent colorectal cancer and detect the disease at its earliest stages. In order to address CRC screening in Louisiana, the Louisiana Legislature established the Louisiana Colorectal Cancer Roundtable (LCCRT) to increase CRC screening rates in Louisiana. The Louisiana Colorectal Cancer Roundtable is a coalition of health systems, providers, insurers, researchers, advocates, and community members dedicated to fighting the disease through awareness, screening promotion, comprehensive policy, and systems improvement. **Since its inception, the CRC screening rate in Louisiana has increased from 64.2% in 2014 to 75.6% in 2022 among individuals aged 50 to 75. In 2021, the screening age was lowered to include individuals aged 45-49, and in 2022, 28.2% of those eligible in this new age group had been screened.**

We're making progress, but we are not there yet.

LCCRT needs your input and expertise to increase the CRC screening rate in Louisiana. We are committed to achieving an 80% screening rate and reducing health disparities associated with CRC.

Join the fight!

Please consider joining us in the fight against colorectal cancer in Louisiana. For more information about the Louisiana Colorectal Cancer Roundtable contact Cara McCarthy at cmcc12@lsuhsc.edu.

