

**To the health care provider:**

**This patient's familial risk for colorectal cancer is elevated, and he or she may require colorectal cancer screening and preventive measures. The next step in helping this patient would be to review the patient's family and medical history information to better define their risk.**

**Your patient has completed the colorectal cancer risk assessment module of the U.S. Surgeon General's My Family Health Portrait web-based family history tool. The module is based on current recommendations from the National Comprehensive Cancer Network (NCCN) and United States Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF).**

**The risk estimate generated by this tool uses both family and personal medical history information to classify patients into average or elevated risk categories for colorectal cancer. This patient's risk elevation may be due to having a single relative with colon cancer (relatively common) or have a family medical history that suggests a familial or an inherited cancer syndrome, (e.g. , several relatives with colon, endometrial or other cancers, a relative with colon cancer diagnosed before 50, a relative with more than one primary cancer, etc.) (less common). The risk estimate does not reflect other risk factors such as diet, race, or body mass index.**

As no risk assessment tool is perfect, the patient has been instructed to seek your advice regarding their risk for colon cancer and steps they should take to reduce their risk. This patient may benefit from early (beginning before age 50) and more frequent colon cancer screening as well as preventive measures such as diet, exercise, and use of non-steroidal anti-inflammatory medication.

For more information on familial risk factors for colorectal cancer and recommendations for screening and prevention see:

- National Comprehensive Cancer Network (NCCN) colorectal cancer risk assessment guidelines: [http://www.nccn.org/professionals/physician\\_gls/f\\_guidelines.asp](http://www.nccn.org/professionals/physician_gls/f_guidelines.asp)
- United States Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF) colorectal cancer screening recommendations: <http://www.ahrq.gov/CLINIC/USPSTF/uspscolo.htm>
- National Cancer Institute Colorectal Cancer PDQ: <http://www.cancer.gov/cancertopics/types/colon-and-rectal>