

PROVIDER LETTER—NO INCREASED RISK

This individual's familial risk for colorectal cancer is not increased.

If this individual is age 50 or older he or she may benefit from colorectal cancer screening. The next step in helping this patient would be to review the patient's family and medical history information.

This individual has completed the colorectal cancer risk assessment module of the **U.S. Surgeon General's My Family Health Portrait** web-based family history tool at (<https://familyhistory.hhs.gov/>). The module is based on recommendations from the National Comprehensive Cancer Network (NCCN) and the 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 not increased or increased risk categories for colorectal cancer. The risk estimate **does not** reflect other risk factors such as diet, race, or body mass index.

Next Steps

- **Please review the family and personal history of this individual to confirm the reported lack of colorectal cancer risk factors.**
- **Please discuss the need for colorectal cancer screening with the individual based on your clinical judgment.**

As no risk assessment tool is perfect, this individual has been instructed to seek your advice regarding their risk for colon cancer and steps they should take to reduce their risk. Recommendations suggest that colon cancer screening should begin at age 50. For average risk individuals, colon cancer screening can be achieved using stool cards, flexible sigmoidoscopy, or colonoscopy at defined intervals. Preventive measures such as improved diet and exercise can begin at any age.

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

- National Cancer Institute Colorectal Cancer PDQ:
<http://www.cancer.gov/cancertopics/pdq/genetics/colorectal/HealthProfessional>
- United States Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF) colorectal cancer screening recommendations:
<http://www.uspreventiveservicestaskforce.org/uspstf08/colocancer/colors.htm>