



Don't Be Afraid of Colon Cancer Screening

Digestive Health Specialists offers comprehensive GI screening and treatment.

"March is Colon Cancer Awareness Month, but any time is a good time for cancer screening," says Steven Kaptik, MD.

Dr. Kaptik observes that female patients are often surprised to learn that colon cancer is just as prevalent among women as men. "Certain patient populations have an increased risk for the disease, but there are no significant gender differences," he says. "Colon cancer affects people without regard to age, race, or gender."

Some patients are reluctant to discuss digestive issues, but Dr. Kaptik emphasizes that there's nothing to be embarrassed about: "Conditions like Irritable Bowel Syndrome [IBS] and Inflammatory Bowel Disease [IBD], including Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis, are very common, and we deal with them every day."

When it comes to colon screening, the main goal is always colon cancer prevention.

"We're not just trying to find cancer—we want to *prevent* people from ever getting cancer," Dr. Kaptik explains. "We'd like as many people to be screened as possible, so we inform patients about other screening options if they're reluctant to get a colonoscopy."

For patients who choose to undergo colon screening, it's crucial to know the costs involved. An ambulatory surgery center, such as those at Digestive Health Specialists, can offer the same high-quality care at a much lower cost than a hospital.

Latest Modalities

At Digestive Health Specialists, patients with even the most difficult cases of IBD have access to the newest treatment modalities, including infusion medications.

The innovative new SonarMD[®] platform is an app that connects physicians with IBD patients, allowing patients to address any digestive issues before they get to the

point where they require a physician or hospital visit.

"There's real peace of mind knowing that you can talk to someone when you're having trouble," says Dr. Kaptik, "and that these symptoms are being identified early to make sure you receive the most expedited care before your symptoms become problematic."

The team at Digestive Health Specialists offers comprehensive care for digestive disorders of all sorts, from peptic (stomach) ulcers and gastroesophageal reflux disease (GERD) to Hepatitis C and hemorrhoids.

"As important as colon cancer screening is, we want people to realize that we do much more than that," says Dr. Kaptik. "We deal with the health of the entire digestive system, and we work to keep our patients as healthy as possible."

