



## Sentara Cancer Network

# Comprehensive Colorectal Cancer Program

The Sentara Cancer Network is dedicated to providing a compassionate and personalized approach to the diagnosis and treatment of colorectal cancer. From education and prevention to leading-edge treatments, patients benefit from the wide range of services offered through our Comprehensive Colorectal Cancer Program, including:

- Individualized treatment plans
- Multidisciplinary care team of colorectal specialists
- Minimally-invasive techniques and advanced technology
- Genetic counseling for accurate diagnosis and treatment

Wherever you are in your journey, our Comprehensive Colorectal Cancer Program is here to be a strong partner in your fight and ensure you receive high-quality and timely care.

### You're Safe at Sentara



**Screening Everyone Who Enters Our Facilities**



**Masking Everyone Who Enters Our Facilities**



**Limiting Visitors**



**Ongoing, Robust Cleaning for Infection Prevention**

Sentara is taking every precaution to keep you safe. Visit **SafeAtSentara.com** to learn more.

To learn more visit **[sentaracancer.com](https://www.sentaracancer.com)**



# SENTARA COMPREHENSIVE COLORECTAL CANCER PROGRAM



## Our Commitment to You

Even with the promise of a vaccine, COVID-19 is still a part of our daily lives, along with the uncertainty that comes with a pandemic. Healthcare providers are still seeing individuals delay care and put off preventative screenings that are critical to identifying health problems early. We want you to feel safe at Sentara so there is nothing in between you and getting the best care possible. We are screening, masking, ensuring social distance and have robust cleaning processes in place for infection prevention. We are committed to always keeping our patients, employees and community members safe.

*"Early detection means  
better outcomes..."*

***Cancer doesn't wait."***

## Early Detection Critical for Colon Cancer

Colon cancer, also known as colorectal cancer, is a type of cancer that begins in the large intestine (colon) and can spread to other parts of the body. According to the American Cancer Society, colon cancer is the third-leading cause of cancer-related deaths in men and in women in the United States. In 2015, Virginia, specifically the Hampton Roads area, was identified as a "hot-spot" for colon cancer deaths. Since that time Sentara has been even more focused on patient education and early detection. Our goal: getting individuals the preventative care they need—care that could potentially save a life.

According to Dr. Gregory Fitzharris with Sentara Surgery Specialists, Sentara is currently treating more than 4,000 colon cancer patients, with most of them in Hampton Roads. "Early detection means better outcomes, so we are working hard to educate patients to get screened before they develop signs and symptoms, and to get the message out that you should not delay preventative screenings. Cancer doesn't wait."

## Cancer Survivor Now Advocating for Others

Iris Lundy, RN, BSN, MHL, was working in the Accreditation and Regulatory Department at Sentara when she started feeling sick. She remembers one day while at Sentara Norfolk General Hospital, she could barely walk down the hallway. Iris was diagnosed with colon cancer in 2012. It came as a shock to Iris, who had no family history of the disease.

Thankfully, Iris' cancer was caught before it spread. With the help of the Sentara Cancer Network, Iris had the cancerous tumor removed, along with 12 inches of her colon. In late 2012, Iris was declared cancer-free. She still receives regular colonoscopies and blood tests to make sure cancer has not returned.

Now, as a cancer survivor and Director of Health

Equity at Sentara, she has a unique perspective to bring to her role. The division has a goal to identify and remove barriers so

people can receive the care they need. Iris and her team identify health disparities, like the high rate of cancer deaths in minority communities, and research the possible causes.

Iris shares, "Not only am I a passionate advocate for colon cancer awareness, I'm honored to be able to take my experience and help make a difference in education and access to care for others."

## Quality Meets Care

The Sentara Cancer Network focuses on screening and detection to catch cancer early.

If results are abnormal, we provide you with timely, accurate results. That means you don't have to wait to know if there's a problem, and treatment can begin immediately if a cancer diagnosis is confirmed. Plus, Sentara is with you every step of the way. Our team is there to help and support you and your family with any challenges you may face.

