

Colon Cancer Screening



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Colon cancer is one of the most common cancers.

The frequency of falling ill with this disease usually increases significantly after the age of 50. If there is a history of increased risk within the family, colon cancer can also occur earlier. Colon cancer almost always develops from precursor stages (polyps) that can be detected and removed long before they develop into cancer. Thus, colonoscopy screening not only contributes to the early detection of colorectal cancer but even prevents the onset of cancer. For certain diseases, precautionary steps such as check-ups should start earlier. Other factors for an increased risk of colon cancer include the consumption of tobacco and alcohol, being overweight and lack of exercise as well as a low-fiber diet and diabetes mellitus. Regarding your personal risk profile, we are happy to consult you and plan your colonoscopy screening with you.

Are there alternatives to colonoscopy in preventive medicine?

In clinical studies, alternative methods such as Computer Tomography (CT) and Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) and capsule colonoscopy were used as a diagnostic tool for early detection of cancer. These methods may have their justification in other indications but also require the preparation of the colon, which is perceived as unpleasant. However, it is not possible to remove suspicious polyps under these circumstances, while it is indeed possible during the endoscopic check-up during the same examination procedure. Only after having removed polyp tissue, it can then be determined by means of a histological examination whether the polyp was benign or already cancerous. By performing a colonoscopy as a preventive check-up and the timely removal of suspicious - but still benign - polyps, the development of malignant tumors can effectively be prevented.