Colorectal Cancer Screening Pathway Map
Version 2018.03

Disclaimer
The pathway map is intended to be used for informational purposes only. The pathway map is not intended to constitute or be a substitute for medical advice and should not be relied upon in any such regard. Further, all pathway maps are subject to clinical judgment and actual practice patterns may not follow the proposed steps set out in the pathway map. In the situation where the reader is not a healthcare provider, the reader should always consult a healthcare provider if he/she has any questions regarding the information set out in the pathway map. The information in the pathway map does not create a physician-patient relationship between Cancer Care Ontario (CCO) and the reader.
Pathway Map Considerations

- For more information on the Diagnostic Assessment Program (DAP) refer to the Organizational Standards for DAPs.
- Primary care providers play an important role in the cancer journey and should be informed of relevant tests and consultations. Ongoing care with a primary care provider is assumed to be part of the pathway map. For patients who do not have a primary care provider, Health Care Connect, is a government resource that helps patients find a doctor or nurse practitioner.
- Throughout the pathway map, a shared decision-making model should be implemented to enable and encourage patients to play an active role in the management of their care. For more information see Person-Centered Care Guideline.
- Hyperlinks are used throughout the pathway map to provide information about relevant CCO tools, resources and guidance documents.
- The term ‘health care provider’, used throughout the pathway map, includes primary care providers and specialists, nurse practitioners, and emergency physicians.

Pathway Map Legend

- Primary Care
- Endoscopy
- Palliative Care
- Pathology
- Diagnostic Assessment Program (DAP)
- Surgery
- Radiation Oncology
- Medical Oncology
- Radiology
- Multidisciplinary Cancer Conference (MCC)
- Psychosocial Oncology (PSO)

- Intervention
- Decision or assessment point
- Patient (disease) characteristics
- Consultation with specialist
- Exit pathway
- Off-page reference
- Patient/Provider interaction
- Referral
- Wait time indicator point
- Required
- Possible

Pathway Map Disclaimer

This pathway map is a resource that provides an overview of the treatment that an individual in the Ontario cancer system may receive.

The pathway map is intended to be used for informational purposes only. The pathway map is not intended to constitute or be a substitute for medical advice and should not be relied upon in any such regard. Further, all pathway maps are subject to clinical judgment and actual practice patterns may not follow the proposed steps set out in the pathway map. In the situation where the reader is not a healthcare provider, the reader should always consult a healthcare provider if he/she has any questions regarding the information set out in the pathway map. The information in the pathway map does not create a physician-patient relationship between Cancer Care Ontario (CCO) and the reader.

While care has been taken in the preparation of the information contained in the pathway map, such information is provided on an “as-is” basis, without any representation, warranty, or condition, whether express, or implied, statutory or otherwise, as to the information’s quality, accuracy, currency, completeness, or reliability.

CCO and the pathway map’s content providers (including the physicians who contributed to the information in the pathway map) shall have no liability, whether direct, indirect, consequential, contingent, special, or incidental, related to or arising from the information in the pathway map or its use thereof, whether based on breach of contract or tort (including negligence), and even if advised of the possibility thereof. Anyone using the information in the pathway map does so at his or her own risk, and by using such information, agrees to indemnify CCO and its content providers from any and all liability, loss, damages, costs and expenses (including legal fees and expenses) arising from such person’s use of the information in the pathway map.

This pathway map may not reflect all the available scientific research and is not intended as an exhaustive resource. CCO and its content providers assume no responsibility for omissions or incomplete information in this pathway map. It is possible that other relevant scientific findings may have been reported since completion of this pathway map. This pathway map may be superseded by an updated pathway map on the same topic.

Note: Guidelines indicated in red are currently undergoing development or review.

© CCO retains all copyright, trademark and all other rights in the pathway map, including all text and graphic images. No portion of this pathway map may be used or reproduced, other than for personal use, or distributed, transmitted or “mirrored” in any form, or by any means, without the prior written permission of CCO.
Colorectal Cancer Screening Pathway Map

The pathway map is intended to be used for informational purposes only. The pathway map is not intended to constitute or be a substitute for medical advice and should not be relied upon in any such regard. Further, all pathway maps are subject to clinical judgment and actual practice patterns may not follow the proposed steps set out in the pathway map. In the situation where the reader is not a healthcare provider, the reader should always consult a healthcare provider if he/she has any questions regarding the information set out in the pathway map. The information in the pathway map does not create a physician-patient relationship between Cancer Care Ontario (CCO) and the reader.

ColonCancerCheck (CCC) Ontario’s province-wide, population-based colorectal cancer screening program.

NOTE: The colorectal cancer screening program is intended for individuals who do not demonstrate any symptoms or previously diagnosed pathology. This pathway map should not be used for individuals with abnormal colonoscopic findings, inflammatory bowel disease, or polyps.
**ColonCancerCheck (CCC)** Ontario’s province-wide, population-based colorectal cancer screening program.

**NOTE:** The colorectal cancer screening program is intended for individuals who do not demonstrate any symptoms or previously diagnosed pathology.

**NOTE:** This pathway map should not be used for individuals with abnormal colonoscopic findings, inflammatory bowel disease, or polyps.

---

### Asymptomatic average risk with normal colonoscopy or hyperplastic polyps
- Colonoscopy or average risk screening in 10 years

### Increased risk of CRC with normal colonoscopy or hyperplastic polyps
- Colonoscopy every 5-10 years (depending on prior colonoscopy findings, family history, etc.)
  - Colonoscopy every 5 years for people with a first-degree relative who was diagnosed with colorectal cancer before age 60
  - Colonoscopy every 10 years for people with a first-degree relative who was diagnosed with colorectal cancer at age 60 or older

### 1 or 2 small (≤ 1 cm) tubular adenomas with low-grade dysplasia
- Colonoscopy in 5-10 years

### One of the following colonoscopy results:
- 3-10 adenomas, or
- Any adenoma ≥ 1 cm, or
- Adenoma with villous features, or
- Adenoma with high-grade dysplasia

**Summary**

- Colonoscopy in 3 years (if adenomas were completely removed, not removed piecemeal)
- If follow-up colonoscopy normal or 1-2 small tubular adenomas with low-grade dysplasia, then next colonoscopy in 5 years

### >10 adenomas
- Endoscopist discretion for more intense follow-up

### Sessile adenomas removed piecemeal
- Endoscopy in 2-6 months to verify complete removal, then individualized surveillance

---

**Pathway Map Note(s):**

1. To complement the colonoscopy standards, CCC adopted the Guidelines for Colonoscopy Surveillance after Polypectomy. Gastroenterology 2006; 130:1872-1885