



The Maryland State Medical Society

News: For Immediate Release

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MARCH IS COLORECTAL CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

BALTIMORE, March 18, 2013 — Of cancers that affect both men and women, colorectal cancer is the second leading cancer killer in the United States. Colorectal cancer affects all racial and ethnic groups and is most often found in people ages 50 and older.

MedChi President, Dr. Brian Avin, urges “the best way to prevent colorectal cancer is to get screened regularly starting at age 50. There are often no signs or symptoms of colorectal cancer – that is why it’s so important to get screened.”

To increase awareness of the importance of colorectal cancer screening, MedChi is participating in Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month. Colorectal cancer deaths account for about 10% of all cancer related deaths in Maryland.

People over age 50 are at highest risk for colorectal cancer. Other risk factors include smoking, having a family history of colorectal cancer, and being African American.

Everyone can take these healthy steps to help prevent colorectal cancer:

- Get screened starting at age 50
- Quit smoking and stay away from secondhand smoke
- Get active and eat healthy

About MedChi

MedChi, The Maryland State Medical Society, is a non-profit membership association of Maryland physicians. It is the largest physician organization in Maryland. The mission of MedChi is to serve as Maryland's foremost advocate and resource for physicians, their patients and the public health of Maryland. For more information, please visit www.medchi.org.