

Colon Cancer Prevention Program (CCPP) Information

What is the Colon Cancer Prevention Program (CCPP)?

The Colon Cancer Prevention Program (CCPP) was developed by Nova Scotia Health's Cancer Care Program with the goal of decreasing the number of colon cancer deaths in Nova Scotia by facilitating regular screening of all Nova Scotians aged 50-74. It is available across the province. **The CCPP helps find cancer and pre-cancerous growths; if these growths are found early, colon cancer can be prevented.**

Is the CCPP working?

It is! Since the program began in 2009, more than 10,000 Nova Scotians who did the test when they were feeling fine and had no warning signs, were found to have pre-cancerous growths. The growths were removed and cancer was prevented. More than 800 Nova Scotians were found to have a cancer, often diagnosed at an early stage when treatment is most effective.

What information does the CCPP keep?

We keep the information from the Participant Form that people complete with their screening test, the results of the screening test (FIT) so that we know who needs follow-up tests, and the results of any follow-up tests such as a colonoscopy. All of this information helps us to improve the program.

How is my information kept private?

We are required to follow Nova Scotia Health's Privacy Policy. This means that:

- all program staff are required to protect your privacy.
- the names of screening participants will not be used in any program evaluation or public reports about the program.

The doctor or nurse that you identified on the Participant Form will receive your results. He or she may ask us for the results of any follow-up tests such as a colonoscopy.

For privacy concerns please contact Nova Scotia Health's Privacy Office at 902-473-2626. To request a paper copy of the policy, please call 1-866-599-2267.

Can I opt out of the CCPP?

Yes. Simply check off the "Opt out" option on the Participant Form that you receive from us in the mail or call us at 1-866-599-2267. This tells us that you do not want to participate in this program and do not want to be contacted again.

You can rejoin the program at any time simply by calling us at 1-866-599-2267.

How can I find out more about the CCPP?

To learn more about the Colon Cancer Prevention Program, call us toll-free at 1-866-599-2267.

Why does the Participant Form include the question "Are you a member of the following cultural/ethnic communities?"

This information will help us learn, over time, how colon cancer affects people of various cultural/ethnic communities. Evidence suggests that certain communities (for example individuals of African heritage) are at increased risk for developing colon cancer. These specific categories have been selected based on the Nova Scotia cultural competence guidelines and in consultation with other government organizations.

- [Colon Cancer Prevention Program Participant Form](#)
Fill in both sides of this form and return it with your screening test.
- [Patient Colonoscopy Information](#)
- [Colonoscopy Preparation Instructions](#)

Keep your information up to date

To get invitations/letters from the Colon Cancer Prevention Program, your name and address must be up to date with Nova Scotia's Medical Services Insurance (MSI). To update your information:

- By mail or online, visit [Nova Scotia Department of Health and Wellness](#)
- Call (toll-free in Nova Scotia): 1-800-563-8880