



Colorectal Cancer Screening (COL-E)

COL-E Measure Description¹

Assesses adults 45–75 who had appropriate screening for colorectal cancer with any of the following tests: annual fecal occult blood test, flexible sigmoidoscopy every 5 years, colonoscopy every 10 years, computed tomography colonography every 5 years, stool DNA test every 3 years.

Why is COL-E Important?¹

Treatment for colorectal cancer in its earliest stage can lead to a 90 percent survival rate after five years. However, more than a third of adults 45–75 do not get recommended screenings. Colorectal cancer screening of asymptomatic adults in that age group can catch polyps before they become cancerous or detect colorectal cancer in its early stages, when treatment is most effective.

Best Practices

- ✓ Provide ongoing outreach to encourage colorectal cancer screening.
- ✓ Prepare chart to ensure that the provider orders a colorectal cancer screening at the next office visit.
- ✓ Use standing orders for colonoscopy and FOBT (Fecal Occult Blood Test).
- ✓ If patient refuses a colonoscopy, order FOBT/FIT-DNA as an alternative.
- ✓ Provide at-home FOBT colorectal cancer screening kits for use in patients' homes.

Numerator Compliance²

Members with one or more screenings for colorectal cancer.

Any of the following meet criteria:

- Fecal occult blood test during the measurement period. For administrative data, assume the required number of samples were returned, regardless of FOBT type.
- Stool DNA (sDNA) with FIT test during the measurement period or the 2 years prior to the measurement period.
- Flexible sigmoidoscopy during the measurement period or the 4 years prior to the measurement period.
- CT colonography during the measurement period or the 4 years prior to the measurement period.
- Colonoscopy prior to the measurement during the measurement period or the 9 years period.

Data Collection Method²

Administrative (Claims)



Trillium Percentages/NCQA National Averages¹

COL-E	Measurement Year	Trillium	NCQA National Average
Total	2023	28.21	38.06
	2022	-	-

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¹ Source: <https://www.ncqa.org/report-cards/health-plans/state-of-health-care-quality-report/measures-list/>

² Source: HEDIS MY 2025 Tech Specs Manual Vol. 2