## **Colon Cancer Screening Choices**

# **Colonoscopy**

#### FIT

#### **Benefits**

- 1. Can remove polyps to prevent cancer.
- 2. Can find cancer earlier, when it's easier to treat and cure.
- 3. If the exam is normal and your cancer risk is average, you only need one every 10 years.
- 1. A low-cost, no-risk stool test you can do at home.
- 2. Finds 70-80% of cancers.
- 3. A good choice if you can't have a colonoscopy.

## **Things to Think About**

- 1. You need to use laxatives to clean your bowels and have IV sedation during the exam.
- 2. You need to take a day off work and have a driver take you home.
- 3. Most insurance plans will pay for this test, but if you don't have insurance it can be expensive.

- 1. If your FIT result is not normal you will need a follow-up colonoscopy.
- 2. A FIT exam must be done every year to work as good as colonoscopy.

### **The Bottom Line**

Colon cancer is the #2 cancer killer among men and women combined. But, with regular testing using colonoscopy or FIT you can find colon cancer earlier and greatly improve your chance of survival.

