

# WHAT TO KNOW ABOUT CANCER SCREENINGS AS AN AFRICAN AMERICAN

USC Norris Comprehensive  
Cancer Center  
Keck Medicine of USC

Office of Community Outreach  
and Engagement



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## Breast Cancer

**Who-** People Assigned Female at Birth

### **Screening Type Options**

- Mammogram

### **Screening Age & Frequency**

- 42 to 54 - Yearly
- Women 55 and older- Every Other Year or Yearly (Patients Choice)

### **Family or Personal History that May increase your risk**

- Mutated BRCA1 or BRCA2 Gene or Immediate Family Member with a Mutated gene
- Family History of Breast Cancer

**Although Rare, People Assigned Male at Birth can also be diagnosed with Breast Cancer. If you feel any unusual lumps, contact your Primary Care Provider right away.**



## Colorectal (Colon & Rectal) Cancer

**Who-** Everyone

**Screening Age** 45- 85 years

### **Family or Personal History that May increase your risk**

- Crohns Disease
- Ulcerative colitis.
- Irritable Bowl Syndrome

### **Screening Type Options**

- Stool Test - every year
- CT colonography- every 5yrs
- Colonoscopy - every 10yrs



## Lung Cancer

**Who-** People ages 50-80 in good health, who currently smoke or have quit in the past 15 years & Have a 20-pack-year smoking history

### **How to find your pack year**

Ex: 2packs/day x 10 years= 20 pack-year

### **Screening Types**

- Imaging Test (LDCT)



## Prostate Cancer

**Who-** People Assigned Male at Birth

### **Screening Age & Frequency**

- 40 and up - Yearly
- Screening for prostate cancer continues until life expectancy is less than 10years

### **Screening Type Options**

- Prostate-specific antigen (PSA) blood test.
- The digital rectal exam (DRE)

### **Family or Personal History that May increase your risk**

- Father or Brother with Prostate Cancer

**Prostate Cancer is unique in that Just being African American makes you High Risk**



## Cervical Cancer

**Who-** People assigned Female at Birth who have not undergone Cervix Removal

### **Screening Age & Frequency**

- 21- 24 - Pap Yearly
- 25-29- Pap Every 3 Years
- 30-65- Pap every 3 Years, & Primary HPV Test every 5 yrs

### **Screening Type Options**

- Pap Smear
- HPV-Based Test

### **Family or Personal History that May increase your risk**

- Suppressed Immune System
- Exposed to DES in utero

**It is recommended that everyone receives the HPV Vaccination as it is a preventative measure against various genital cancers**



To Learn More About Cancer Screenings,  
Visit the American Cancer Society at  
Cancer.org

## Questions to Ask Your Doctor Once Diagnosed

- Who will talk to me about treatment and what are my options?
- How will these options impact my ability to join a clinical trial later?
- What clinical trials are available for me? Where are they located, and how do I learn more about them?
- Are there any Trials you may not be aware of? If so how can I find them?
- What are some of the potential side effects?
- Will my insurance cover treatment? If not, are there any resources to still receive treatment
- If I participate in a clinical trial, will I need to go somewhere else to be treated?
- Am I limited to trials offered by this institution?
- Would you still be my doctor?
- If you were me, knowing what you know, would you join a trial?

## Resources

- **For More Information on USC Norris Cancer Center, Visit** <https://uscnorriscancer.usc.edu/community-outreach-engagment>
- **For Information on USC Clinical Trials, Visit** <https://uscnorris.com/ClTrials/> **or email** [essence.wynter@med.usc.edu](mailto:essence.wynter@med.usc.edu)
- **For Information on Clinical Trials across the U.S, Visit** [ClinicalTrials.gov](https://ClinicalTrials.gov)
- **Visit** <https://standuptocancer.org/> **for updates on clinical trials.**
- **For Information on the Lazarex Travel reimbursement program, email** [elena.nieves@med.usc.edu](mailto:elena.nieves@med.usc.edu)

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