



# Urban Indians and Colorectal Cancer

Support Public Awareness & Education. Make screening a priority. Target Health Disparities.

- Save Money:** Individuals who are uninsured and underinsured are less likely to get screened, are more likely to be diagnosed at an advanced stage of CRC, and less likely to survive than those who are insured. Promote early screening and save millions in estimated Medicare costs as the U.S. population ages.
- Save Lives:** When diagnosed early, colon cancer has a five-year survival rate of 90%. Colonoscopies can identify and remove pre-cancerous cells before cancer begins.
- Save Time:** Work with Urban Indian Health Organizations (UIHO) to help overcome barriers to care. UIHOs have culturally appropriate and community-trusted patient management services in place that can be utilized to implement colorectal cancer screening for Urban Indians.
- Reduce Health Disparities:** American Indians and Alaska Natives are a priority population to target for colorectal cancer because they are more often diagnosed with advanced rather than early stage CRC. Cancer survival data reveal that AI/ANs have the poorest survival of any racial group for all cancer sites combined and for eight of the ten leading sites.

***Remember to include Tribal and Urban Indian Health Organizations in CRC planning efforts, policies, and programs in your state.***

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## Urban Indian C.A.R.E.S.

(Colon and Rectal  
Education and Screening)



C.A.R.E.S. Logo by Az Carmen, Ph.D. (Chickasaw)

**67%**

percentage of American Indians and Alaska Natives (AI/AN) in the US who live in urban areas

**10-20%**

percentage of AI/AN screened for colorectal cancer by Indian Health Service (IHS) (compared to 60% of Caucasians)

**\$35/yr**

cost of screening for CRC (by Fecal Occult Blood Test)

**\$120K**

cost of treating late stage colorectal cancer

**90%**

5-year survival rate when CRC is diagnosed early

**2X**

more likely to be diagnosed with advanced rather than early stage CRC if you are AI/AN

**About Us:** Urban Indian C.A.R.E.S. (Colon and Rectal Education and Screening) promotes education, testing and treatment of colorectal cancer for urban AI/AN through the Urban Indian Health Organizations nationwide. Contact us at [info@uihi.org](mailto:info@uihi.org).

**Local Contact:**

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