



PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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Free colon cancer screening kits available in March

(February 28, 2014) – Statistics say colon cancer is the third-most common cancer found in both men and women, and it is the second-leading cancer killer in the United States. But fortunately about 90 percent of people who find colon cancer in the earliest stages can be successfully treated.

In recognition of national Colon Cancer Awareness Month in March, the Tammy Walker Cancer Center, Salina Regional Health Center, American Cancer Society and Salina Charities League are making free colon cancer screening kits available to anyone age 50 and older on a first-come, first-served basis. The kits can be picked up at any Salina or Lindsborg pharmacy, the Salina Family Healthcare Center and Tammy Walker Cancer Center while supplies last.

These new, more advanced, fecal occult blood tests require only one sample and have no food or drug restrictions. The samples can then be mailed to Salina Regional Health Center for lab analysis via a pre-paid postage envelope provided. Results of the test will be mailed to both the patient and their primary care physician. Participants in the screening should return their samples for analysis by April 15.

The American Cancer Society recommends everyone age 50 and older get a colonoscopy every 10 years and use an annual fecal occult blood test or fecal immunochemical test between colonoscopies. Other tests may also be recommended by your physician. Those with family history of the disease should consider annual screening sooner.

For more information about the free colon cancer screening kits contact Linda Hinnenkamp, cancer outreach nurse at the Tammy Walker Cancer Center, by calling (785) 452-4848.

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