Colorectal Cancer Screening: What are the best options for Indian Country?

2011 IHS Medical Providers’ Best Practices and GPRA Measures Conference
May 24th, 2011
Presentation Outline

• Epidemiology of CRC in US, by race/ethnicity
• Rationale for screening
• Screening rates among AI/AN
• Screening options
• Efforts to increase screening among AI/AN
Colorectal cancer incidence rates, AI/AN and NHW, both sexes, 1999-2004
Colorectal Cancer Mortality in USA

Source: National Cancer Institute, A snapshot of colorectal cancer
Staging of Colorectal Cancer
Five-year CRC-specific Survival by Stage at Diagnosis, All Races, 1999-2006

Survival Rate (%)

- Local (early): 90.4%
- Regional: 69.5%
- Distant (late): 11.6%

Stage at Diagnosis

CRC Stage at Diagnosis*
AI/AN and Non-Hispanic white, 1999-2003

*Early stage includes local disease; late stage includes regional and distant stage disease

Colorectal Cancer

Adenoma-carcinoma sequence responsible for 95% of colorectal cancer
National Polyp Study suggested colonoscopy with polypectomy can decrease the lifetime risk of colon cancer by 76-90%.

CRC Screening = Early Detection & Prevention

Early Detection
- Decreased Mortality

Prevention = polyp removal
- Decreased Incidence
Colorectal cancer screening among IHS user population, ages 51-80 (GPRA Results)

(Healthy People 2020 Goal is 70.5%)
Colorectal Cancer Screening: GPRA 2010 results, by IHS Area

(Healthy People 2020 Goal is 70.5%)
Cancer screening among IHS user population

Data source: GPRA 2010 CRS Results, GPRA Coordinators Conference November, 2010
Who should be screened for CRC?

• USPSTF guidelines for average-risk persons:
  
  – Ages 50-75 - Routine screening is recommended
  
  – Ages 76-85 - Routine screening not recommended
  
  – Older than 85 - Screening not recommended
USPSTF screening test recommendations

- High sensitivity gFOBT* and iFOBT*
  - Every year

- Flexible sigmoidoscopy*
  - Every 5 yr (with FOBT every 3 yr)

- Colonoscopy
  - Every 10 years

* Positive findings require follow-up with colonoscopy

- **Any exam (FOBT in past year, sigmoidoscopy in past 5 years, or colonoscopy in past 10 years)**
- **Colonoscopy in past 10 years**
- **Home FOBT in past year**
- **Sigmoidoscopy in past 5 years**
Is colonoscopy the best screening option for Indian Country?

- Limited capacity

- Cost of procedure out of reach for many (uninsured, high co-pay for insured, screening colonoscopy often not covered by CHS)

- Patient acceptance
  - Invasiveness of procedure
  - Inconvenience (bowel prep, person to transport)
  - Potential risks from procedure
Don’t forget about:

Flexible Sigmoidoscopy
Efficacy of a once-only flexible sigmoidoscopy (UK study)

After 11 years of follow-up, in people who had the screening:

- Cumulative CRC incidence was reduced by:
  - 50% for distal cancers (rectum and sigmoid colon)
  - 33% for colorectal cancer overall

- CRC mortality was reduced by:
  - 43%

- No signs of a waning of effect at longer follow-up times

Atkin et al. Lancet. 2010; 375: 1624-33
UK flexible sigmoidoscopy study: Cumulative incidence distal cancer (%)

Time from randomization (years)

Atkin et al. Lancet. 2010; 375: 1624-33
PLCO Cancer Screening trial: Results from baseline Flexible Sigmoidoscopy exams

- 83.5% accepted initial FS exam
- 23.4% of these had at least one polyp or mass
  - 74% received follow-up colonoscopy
- CRC or any adenoma detection per 1,000 screened subjects
  - 51-80 in women
  - 102-129 in men
- About 77% (130/169) of CRC cases associated with positive FS exam were early-stage at diagnosis

Don’t forget about:

Fecal Occult Blood Tests (FOBT)
Cochrane Systematic Review of FOBT Randomized Controlled Trials

### Table 2. Number of CRC Deaths, Mortality Incidence Ratio, and Mortality Reduction for the Included Trials

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Study</th>
<th>No. of CRC Deaths</th>
<th>Incidence Ratio</th>
<th>Mortality Reduction (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Screening Group</td>
<td>Control Group</td>
<td>Screening Group (py)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Funen</td>
<td>363/30,967</td>
<td>431/30,966</td>
<td>0.84/1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goteborg</td>
<td>252/34,144</td>
<td>300/34,146</td>
<td>NR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minnesota (A)</td>
<td>121/15,570</td>
<td>177/15,394</td>
<td>0.67/1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minnesota (B)</td>
<td>148/15,587</td>
<td>(as above)</td>
<td>0.79/1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nottingham</td>
<td>593/76,466</td>
<td>684/76,384</td>
<td>0.70/1,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A = annual screening; B = biennial screening; NR = not reported; py = person years.

Types of FOBT

❌ Flushable Reagent tests (not recommended)

✔ Guaiac-based FOBT (gFOBT)

✔ Immunochemical FOBT (iFOBT)
  ✔ Also called Fecal Immunochemical Test (FIT)
Guaiac-based FOBT

- Most commonly used type of FOBT
- Detects the peroxidase-like activity of heme in hemoglobin
- Requires 2 samples from 3 consecutive bowel movements using at-home test
- Medicare reimbursement rate currently = $4.75
- Test cost ($2-3 US)
Guaiac-based FOBT: Issues

- Dietary and medication restrictions required
  - False-positives (H. pylori, non-human blood)
- Patient acceptance influenced by method of specimen collection
- Accurate interpretation of results for gFOBT requires training and supervision
- Test is not amenable to automated development and interpretation
- Many providers still conducting in-office, single sample test following a digital rectal exam
Guaiac-based FOBT examples

- Hemoccult (Smith Kline and French Laboratories) 1970
- Hemoccult II (SmithKline Diagnostics)
  - Hemoccult SENSA (SmithKline Diagnostics) 1988
  - Hemoccult II SENSA elite (Beckman Coulter Primary Care Diagnostics) 2003
- Seracult and Seracult Plus (Hardy Diagnostics)
- Coloscreen (Helena Laboratories)

✓ high-sensitivity (recommended for CRC screening)
Immunochemical Fecal Occult Blood Test (iFOBT)

- Uses antibodies to detect the globin portion of human hemoglobin
- Globin does not survive passage through the upper gastrointestinal tract; therefore, iFOBTs are specific for occult bleeding from the large intestine.
- Equal or better in sensitivity and specificity than gFOBT
- Medicare coverage began in January, 2004
- Current Medicare reimbursement rate = $23.00
- Test cost ($16-20)
FDA approved iFOBT

✓ Hemoccult® ICT (Beckman Coulter) 2005
✓ InSure™ (Enterix, Inc.) 2001
• ImmoCARE® (Care Products, Inc.)
• Instant-View® (Alpha Scientific Designs, Inc.) 2002
• iScreen (Instant Technologies)
• MonoHaem® (Chemicon International, Inc.)
• OC-FIT-CHEK® (Polymedco) 2005

✓ Has been used in large, average-risk populations with result published in peer reviewed journals
Example: Hemoccult ICT

• Stool sampling similar to gFOBT (stick and smear)

• Three stools needed

• No dietary restrictions!

• No medication restrictions!
Example: InSure

- No fecal handling
- Patient brushes surface of stool sample in the toilet with brush, then dabs on test card
- Laboratory services contracted with Quest Diagnostics
- Only two samples required
Example: OC-Auto FIT-CHEK

• Completely closed sampling device

• Automated fecal occult blood analyzer

• Requires only one sample from a single stool specimen
iFOBT advantages over gFOBT

• Greater sensitivity for CRC (requiring fewer samples)
• No dietary or medication restrictions
• Specific for human blood in large intestine
• Can be developed and interpreted by automation
• Specimen collection often allows for less stool handling
• Quantifiable so that sensitivity, specificity, and positivity rates can be adjusted for different screening populations
WHAT IS CURRENTLY BEING DONE TO IMPROVE CRC SCREENING IN INDIAN COUNTRY?
IHS Colorectal Cancer Screening Task Force
Strategic Planning Areas of Focus

1. Healthcare professional education and practice
2. Public education and awareness
3. Health policy
4. Screening capacity
1. Healthcare professional education and practice

- Tribal Colorectal Health Education and Navigation Project (Albuquerque Area)

- Assessment of health facility ability to deliver CRC screening services (includes provider education component): American Indian Cancer Foundation (AICAF)

- Improving Patient Care (IPC) sites

- CRC focused CD-ROM (Alaska)

- CRC screening distance learning workshops (Alaska)
Tribal Colorectal Health Education and Navigation Project, Regional workshop
2. Public education and awareness

- Patient navigator for CRC screening (Alaska)
- CRC “Readers’ Theatre” scripts (Alaska)
- First-degree relative database (Alaska)
- CHRs have developed AI-specific PSAs to raise CRC awareness
3. Health policy

- Patient education codes added in 2011 (MH-CRC and WH-CRC)

- Report on tracking and reminder systems at I/T/U facilities (Alaska)

- CRC summits in IHS Areas with highest incidence and mortality (Aberdeen, Billings).
  - Next meeting: Portland Area, October 2011
4. Screening capacity

- Itinerant endoscopy (Alaska)
- Fecal immunochemical test (FIT) study (Alaska)
- Survey endoscopic capacity of I/T/U facilities (AICAF)
- Assess IHS, Tribal, and Urban (I/T/U) health facility ability to deliver CRC screening services (AICAF)
Continuing the CRC screening dialogue

- Subscribe to the IHS CRC listserv at: http://www.ihs.gov.listserver/index.cfm?module=signUpForm&list_id=138

- Contact Donald Haverkamp (IHS Division of Epidemiology and Disease Prevention) at: donald.haverkamp@ihs.gov
Thank you!