Connecting with the Community

KCCHSD

Colonoscopy

According to Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), colorectal cancer is the seconding leading cause of cancer deaths in the United States for both men and women. Getting a colorectal cancer screening test can find precancerous polyps so they can be removed before they turn into cancer. There are several tests available to screen for colorectal cancer, one of these test is a Colonoscopy.

Kit Carson County Health Service District's Same Day Surgery Department performs Colonoscopies with Dr. Charles Frankum and Dr. James Pulju. Dr. Frankum is board certified in General Surgery, Colon and Rectal Surgery. Dr. Pulju is board certified in Internal Medicine and Gastroenterology.

A colonoscopy is a screening for colorectal cancer- cancers of the colon (large intestine) and rectum. Colorectal cancer can be prevented by early detection and removal of polyps (abnormal growths in the lining of the colon). During a colonoscopy, Dr. Frankum or Dr. Pulju will visually exam the patient's colon using a flexible scope (colonoscope) that transmits the images to a video screen. Any polyps found during the procedure will be immediately removed, which prevents them from growing and developing into colon cancer.

Dr. Frankum recommends that everyone age 50 and older have a routine colonoscopy once every 10 years to identify and remove precancerous polyps. However, people who are at a higher risk for colon cancer or have a family history of the disease should consider scheduling colonoscopies earlier and more frequently, based upon the recommendations of their healthcare provider.

If you would like to learn more about our same day surgery department and/or colonoscopy procedures please consult with your local healthcare provider or call the same day surgery department at 719-346-4725 option 1.