



**NIAGARA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH**  
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## **Press Release**

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### ***March is Colon Cancer Awareness Month***

**Colon cancer is the second most common cancer and second most common cause of cancer deaths in the United States.** Colon cancer is potentially a very a curable disease. With regular screening and early detection, less invasive treatments can be used, causing less of an impact on a patients' life and resulting higher cure rate. **Detecting colon cancer at an early stage can increase the chance of being cured to over 90%! Pre- screening can be done in the privacy of your home using a Fecal Occult Blood Test (FOBT) kit.**

Colon cancer may start in a polyp that can be present in the colon years without causing any symptoms. Undetected cancer can spread to an incurable stage before the patient has any awareness of its presence. Colon cancer is one of the few cancers we can actually stop or prevent. We can make colon cancer a thing of the past in our society. The key is to get screened!!

If you have no health insurance, the Healthy Living Partnership of Niagara County/NYSDOH Cancer Services Program can help. We can provide a **FREE** FOBT kit to qualified individuals. We also offer further testing if necessary. For information about this program call 215-0553.

**PUBLIC HEALTH: PREVENT. PROMOTE. PROTECT.**