PARTICIPATING HOSPITALS INCLUDE:

- Advocate Health Care System
- Ingalls Memorial Hospital
- John H. Stroger, Jr. Hospital of Cook County
- Northwestern Memorial Hospital
- Rush University Medical Center
- University of Chicago
- University of Illinois Hospital and Health Sciences System

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DEAR PATIENTS:

You may be someone, or know someone, who has colon cancer and is interested in learning more about a colon cancer research study.

Researchers at several hospitals, along with Dr. Garth Rauscher at the University of Illinois at Chicago, are looking to:

- Discover why some patients are diagnosed with colon cancer later than others
- Learn better ways to assist patients to be diagnosed earlier
- Share research findings about colon cancer with doctors, nurses, other health care providers and concerned citizens

Your hospital is working with the research team to reach a total of 650 patients from several institutions over the next 2 years. Patients are being selected and invited to participate based on many factors including: when they were diagnosed, their age, and county in which they live.

WHAT DO WE ALREADY KNOW?

- Detecting cancer early saves lives
- African American men and women are diagnosed with colon cancer later than others
- Hearing from patients about their experiences with colon cancer screening, diagnosis, and treatment is needed

WHO CAN JOIN THIS STUDY?

Each year, several thousand men and women are diagnosed with colon cancer in Illinois, and each of them has a unique story to tell. Patients with colon cancer are eligible for the study if they are:

- Recently diagnosed colon cancer patients
- White or African American men and women
- Aged 30 – 79
- Living in one of the following counties: Cook, DuPage, Lake, or Will County, Ill.; or Lake County, Ind.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN NEXT?

Eligible colon cancer patients will receive a letter inviting them to participate in this research. Interested and eligible patients will be asked to complete an in-person interview that will take about 2 hours of time.

They will also be asked to give permission to the researchers to review their medical records, but only those parts that are specific to their colon cancer screening, diagnosis and treatment.

Patients are given $100 for their time and contributions to the study.

KEEPING YOU INFORMED!

WISHING YOU WELL

This study has been approved by the Institutional Review Boards (IRB) of the University of Illinois at Chicago and the participating hospitals.