

Colon Cancer in African Americans

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Eng 237 Oral Communication

Topic: Colon Cancer among African Americans

Specific purpose: To inform the class about Colon Cancer Among African Americans

Thesis: The rate of being diagnosed with colorectal cancer is higher among African Americans than among any other population group in the United States.

Introduction:

Attention Getter: Why is it that African Americans have a higher chance of dying from more cancers than any other race? The four most common cancers being; lung, breast, prostate, and colorectal. With these being the most common cancers why is it that these impact African Americans the most in? Breast cancer affects more Black women than White women. Lung cancer affects more Black men than white men. Lastly both prostate and colorectal cancer affect more Black men than any other race.

African Americans are about 20% more likely to get colorectal cancer and about 40% likely to die from it than most other racial groups. Why is it we as Black people are impacted?

Credibility: <https://www.cancer.org/latest-news/colorectal-cancer-rates-higher-in-african-americans-rising-in-younger-people.html>

Thesis: In my speech I will hopefully inform you about the effects of colon cancer in African Americans , the causes of colon cancer ,and lastly treatment options (rates and incidences.

Preview statement: First I would like to discuss the causes of Colon Cancer and why it affects Africans Americans more.

Main point I:

Recently an African American man has died from the effects of stage 4 Colorectal Cancer. He hid his pain and his diagnoses from the entire world. I want to inform you of what Colon cancer is along with the effects. Colon cancer is a type of cancer that begins in the large intestine. The final part of the digestive tract is the color. Usually, colon cancer affects older adults, but it can occur at any age. Colorectal Cancer usually begins as benign clumps of cells in the colon. There are four different stages of colon cancer. With each stage, the cancerous cell gets progressively worse. In earlier stages like 1 and 2, effects include constant constipation, diarrhea, stool color changes, and abdominal pain. In later stages like 3 and 4, effects include; excessive fatigue, unexplained weakness, and unintentional weight loss.

Credibility: <https://www.healthline.com/health/colon-cancer#symptoms>

Transition: Secondly, I will like to discuss the cause of colon cancer.

Main point II:

There is no single cause of colon cancer. Nearly all colon cancers begin as noncancerous polyps, which slowly develops into cancer. But usually, you are at a higher risk if you're over the age of fifty, eat a lot of red or processed meats, or if colon cancer runs in the family. Some inherited diseases also increase the risk of developing colon cancer. The most common disease is called Lynch syndrome. Because there is no leading cause for colon cancer, what you eat plays a massive role in developing

colon cancer. This affects African Americans the most because most of our diets are fat infused and not balanced. In a study conducted by Ezra Burstein at the UT southwestern medical center, she mentions, “ It’s not just genetics, there’s a significant environmental role as well. In North America, lifestyle factors such as diet, obesity rates, smoking, and lack of exercise may unleash a type of tumor that may not occur in healthy people. “

Transition: Finally, I will be discussing the treatment options of colon cancer.

Main Point III:

In addition, treatment for colon cancer is determined by how severe that individual situation is. Also including the location of your cancer, it’s stage, and that individual's other health concerns. But, usually, colon cancer involves surgery to remove the cancerous cells. Other treatments can include radiation therapy and chemotherapy.

Conclusion: First I would like to thank everyone for listening to my speech. But what I hope you got out of this speech was that Colorectal Cancer affects African Americans more than any other race in the United States. Some believe that Colon cancer only impacts older adults but the truth is cancer can actually happen at any age. One of the biggest reasons African Americans are affected by colorectal cancer is because there’s not many representation of African Americans in doctors offices. So they won’t get the

check ups they need in order to be informed. Without representation African Americans will still die quicker from colorectal cancer.

Works Cited

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