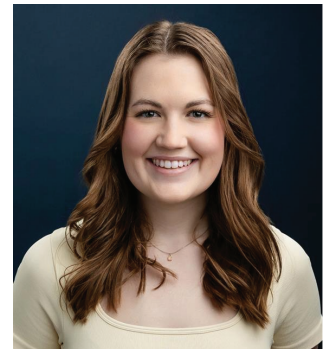


My Neighbor's Charitable Pharmacy staff dress in blue for the CRC awareness month.

Meet our new communication specialist, Bre Chamley!

MPICCS is dedicated to showcasing the amazing work happening in your clinics, and Bre is here to help us make that happen. As our communications specialist, she'll be highlighting the efforts of your clinics. Bre has already published one story on RHRC website (see below) and is currently working on a piece about the Access Family Care, Lamar dental clinic, which will be published in the Lamar Democrat. These are just a few of the exciting projects she has in the works!

Keep an eye out for an email or call from her; she's ready to support and promote your efforts!
<https://medicine.missouri.edu/news/affinia-healthcare-tackles-vaccine-hesitancy-head>

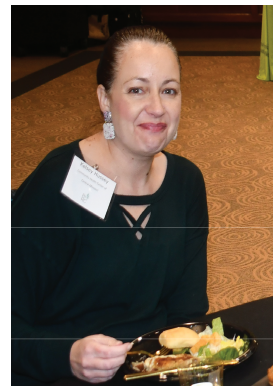


4th Annual Rural Health Research Center (RHRC) Summit

The 4th annual RHRC summit was held on Dec 5th ~ 6th 2024 on the campus of University of Missouri-Columbia. We appreciate everyone who was able to attend the summit!



Keynote speaker, Dr. Zsolt Nagykalai, is Professor and Director of Research in the Department of Family and Preventive Medicine at the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center.



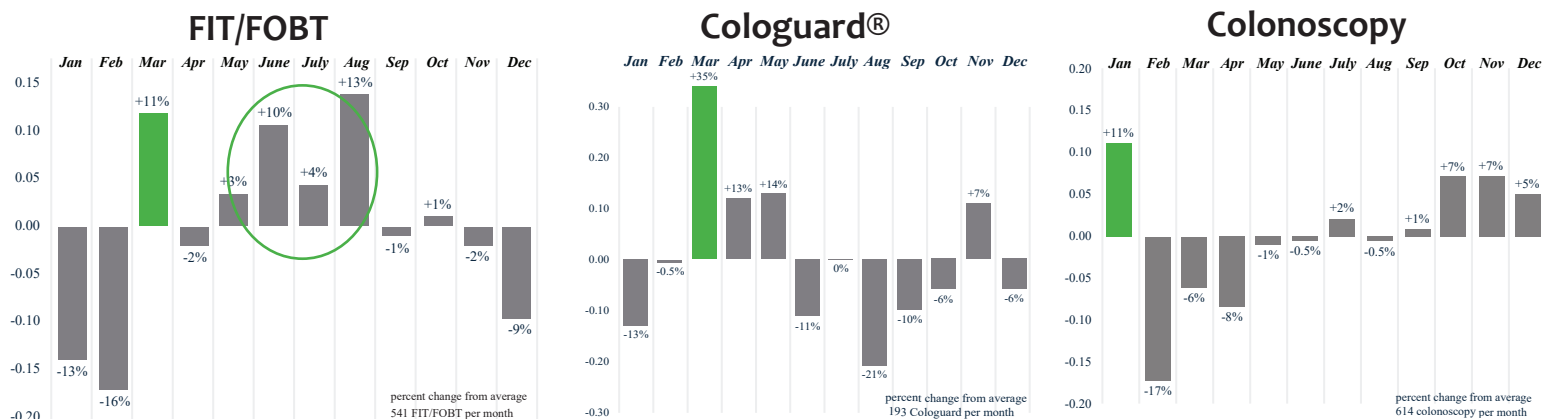
New publications relate to CRC screening

MPICCS clinics' experiences with colonoscopy procedure centers featured

Last year, MPICCS launched a Patient Navigation (PN) program in partnership with the Sinclair School of Nursing to train nursing students in navigating patients through the colonoscopy process. These students collaborated with the Community Health Center of Central Missouri and Katy Trail Community Health systems, uncovering critical barriers to care. Their findings were published in the *Journal of the National Cancer Institute*, with the article being accepted for publication within just two days, acknowledging this as a vital area in need of improvement.

Read the article here: JNCI, <https://doi.org/10.1093/jnci/djaf041>

All of our MPICCS's clinics' data showing seasonality for different CRC screening tests



These data indicate that summer months show the highest completion for FIT/FOBT tests, while March also stands out as a strong month for both Cologuard® and FIT/FOBT. Interestingly, January seems to lead in colonoscopy procedures. Could this be influenced by New Year's resolutions driving health-related goals?

We would greatly value your insights into why certain months yield better results than others, as the trends have left us somewhat puzzled. Naturally, achieving consistent numbers for all three tests throughout the year would have a tremendous impact on your overall CRC screening rates.

Read the article here: <https://cancer.jmir.org/2025/1/e64809>

Colonoscopy is always the next step after a positive stool test

Double checking a positive FIT/FOBT result (abnormal finding) by having the patient do another FIT/FOBT test does not help! Over 21,000 participants submitted 2 samples from the same bowel movement for testing. Among those who had one positive and one negative result, advanced neoplasia was detected by colonoscopy in 21% of these participants. MPICCS' gastroenterologist Dr. Jean Wang advises us that no further stool testing should be done after a positive stool test. For a positive FIT/FOBT, a colonoscopy is the next step.

Read the article here: [https://www.cghjournal.org/article/S1542-3565\(19\)31030-4/pdf](https://www.cghjournal.org/article/S1542-3565(19)31030-4/pdf)

CT colonography costs now covered

- CT Colonography is another non-invasive option for CRC screening
- Beginning from January 1, 2025, Medicare covers CT colonography for CRC screening
- 5 top commercial insurers, United, Anthem Wellpoint, Aetna, Cigna, Healthcare Services Corporation, and many Blue Shield Blue Cross providers across the USA also cover this cost
- Recommended **every five years**
- If any abnormality suggested by the imaging, a diagnostic colonoscopy is the next step