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Canadian Family Medicine Clinical Card

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Canadian Task Force on
Preventative Health Care

Cancer Screening

GRADE Recommendation Legend

- ✓✓ A strong recommendation for an action or intervention (recommend).
 - ✓ A weak recommendation for an action or intervention. *
 - ✗ A weak recommendation against an action or intervention. *
 - ✗✗ A strong recommendation against an action or intervention (do not recommend).
- * Clinicians should discuss benefits and harms with patients in a shared decision-making process, incorporating individual values and preferences.

Breast Cancer (2011)

Recommendations apply to women without personal history of breast cancer, breast cancer in first degree relatives, BCRA1 or 2 mutation, or prior chest wall radiation.

Screening with mammography every 2-3 years:

✗ 40-49 years ✓ 50-69 years ✓✓ 70-74 years

Screening with MRI, clinical breast exam, self breast exam (not recommended):

✗ All ages

Cervical Cancer (2013)

Recommendations apply to women who are, or who have been, sexually active, without symptoms of cervical cancer, previous abnormal screening results, and those without a cervix (e.g., hysterectomy) and immunosuppressed.

Screening with PAP test every 3 years:

✗ <20 years ✗ 20-24 years ✓ 25-29 years ✓✓ 30-69 years ✓ >70 years

Colorectal Cancer (2016)

Recommendations apply to adults without previous colorectal cancer, polyps, IBD, signs or symptoms of CRC, history of CRC in one or more first degree relative, or hereditary syndromes with increased CRC risk.

Screening with fecal occult blood testing (FIT or gFOBT) every 2 years OR flexible sigmoidoscopy every 10 years:

✓ 50-74 years ✓✓ 60-74 years ✗ >75 years

Screening with colonoscopy:

✗ All ages

Lung Cancer (2016)

Recommendations apply to adults with at least a 30 pack year history who currently smoke OR who quit in the last 15 years.

Annual screening with low-dose computed tomography (LDCT) up to three consecutive years:

✓ 50-74 years ✗✗ All other adults

Screening with chest x-ray with or without sputum cytology:

✗✗ All ages

Ovarian Cancer (2016)

Recommendations apply to asymptomatic, nonpregnant, adult women.

Screening for noncervical cancer (including ovarian cancer), pelvic inflammatory disease or other gynecological conditions with a pelvic examination:

✗✗ All ages

The US Preventive Services Task Force has reviewed screening for ovarian cancer (e.g., using transvaginal ultrasound) and has not found evidence of its effectiveness.

Prostate Cancer (2014)

Recommendations apply to men not previously diagnosed with prostate cancer and includes men with lower urinary tract symptoms (e.g., nocturia) or with benign prostatic hyperplasia (BPH).

Screening with prostate-specific antigen (PSA test):

✗✗ <55 years ✗ 55-69 years ✗✗ >70 years