

What role does family history play in screening routines? Talking about colorectal cancer, oftentimes, is not the most comfortable thing to do. Especially in Minnesota with our stoic backgrounds and dealing with harsh winters. People don't like to talk about colorectal cancer around the Thanksgiving dinner table or the holiday tables, but it is discussion that needs to be had with your family members.

We know as gastroenterologists that patients who have a family history of colorectal cancer or advanced polyps, are at increased risk for developing colorectal cancer themselves. Obtaining a very careful and detailed family history of colorectal cancer is of the utmost importance in determining how we go about screening, and at what age do we start colorectal cancer screening.