

Colorectal Cancer Awareness

Colorectal cancer is CMC's top 3 cancer site. Since March is National Cancer Awareness Month, it is a valuable opportunity to educate the employees and the people in the community about colon cancer and promote awareness of the importance of colorectal cancer screening, prevention, and treatment. According to American Cancer Society, it is estimated in 2017 that the numbers of colorectal cancer in the US are as follows: 95,520 new cases of colon cancer and 39,910 new cases of rectal cancer. Also 50,260 deaths expected this year (American Cancer Society website, 2017).

On March 28, 2017 Community Medical Center held its 13th Annual Colorectal Cancer Awareness Fair and 3rd Annual Colorectal Cancer Awareness Symposium. The fair was well attended with 200 fair-goers and 45 individuals attended the symposium. Live colonoscopy demonstrations and robotic demonstrations were provided throughout the program. This year Grant Marshall, NJ Devils Alumni came to support the program. The fair featured informational tables on screening, prevention and treatment options. Dr. Paul DeMartino, MD, FACG, Gastroenterologist and Chairperson for the Colorectal Cancer Awareness Fair & Symposium led the discussion on colorectal cancer prevention, diagnosis, and treatment. The symposium featured speakers including Dr. Malik Deen, MD, Chief Pathology & Laboratory provided the audience with the latest updates in pathology services available, Dr. Felix Kravets, MD, Radiology presented on virtual colonoscopies, and Melissa Gagliano, RN and Rowela Antioquia, RN spoke on prepping for a colonoscopy.