The Baltimore City Health Department Cancer Prevention Education Screening and Treatment (CPEST) Program, provides Free Colorectal and Oral Cancer screening services to eligible individuals including those with symptoms of colorectal cancer and/or oral cancer.

Who is Eligible

For Colorectal Cancer Screenings

- If you are a Maryland Resident (verbal proof of residency)
- 50-75 years and at average risk of Colorectal Cancer

Or

If you are 40 years of age and at an increased risk of Colorectal Cancer. Increased risk of colorectal Cancer includes:

- Have a family history of 1st degree relative (mother, father, grandparent, etc) with Colorectal cancer or Inflammatory Bowel Disease
- Have a personal history of polyps or colorectal adenomas
- Have a personal history of Ovarian or Endometrial Cancer
- If your house hold income is less than or equal to the federal poverty guidelines.
- If you are uninsured or have Medicare Part A only or insurance but No Colorectal Cancer screening coverage.

Oral Cancer risk factors

If you are:

- 40 and older
- Someone that uses tobacco and alcohol
- Human Papillomavirus (HPV) infection has been linked to a subset of oral cancer
- Age- Risk increases with age. Oral cancer most often occurs in people over the age of 40.
- Sun exposure – Cancer of the lip can be caused by sun exposure.
- Diet- A diet low in fruits and vegetables may play a role in oral cancer development.

You Can Be Screened Through the CPEST Program

410-396-3718
Referrals for Colorectal Cancer (CRC) screenings come from health care professionals including but not limited to the City’s medical providers, both contracted and non-contracted, their staff, other Maryland cancer screening programs, primary care providers and community referrals.

Clients are notified of screening test results by the of the Nurse Case Manager via a phone call for normal results or a phone call followed by a letter for abnormal test results. The BCHD CPEST Program will pay for diagnosis and treatment services for anal cancer, lymphoma or carcinoids that are diagnosed during colorectal cancer screening.

For Oral Cancer screenings the CPEST Program works with the Smoke Free Bus, CPEST community health educators (CHE) conducts community outreach (either independently or at health fairs) and actively recruit individuals for oral screening. When a potential client is determined, the CHE will bring the client to the bus to be screened for eligibility. The CHE will discuss our services with the potential client and complete the eligibility screening form. If the potential client meets program eligibility, then the entire screening form will be completed, the client will be immediately ushered back to the Dental Hygienist, who will be present on the bus.

Following oral cancer screenings via the Bus, or following scheduled appointments the Dental Hygienist will provide the administrative case manager, lead for oral cancer screening with a copy of the screening form that includes findings of the oral cancer screening along with any other report(s) of clinical information as needed. Abnormal oral cancer examination diagnostic procedures will be received from the contracted clinical provider via fax and/or mail.

Normal oral cancer screening test results will be provided to the client immediately following the exam by use of a copy of the exam report provided to the client by the Dental Hygienist. Abnormal oral cancer screening test results including results of the biopsies are the responsibility of the lead for oral cancer screening (Social Worker II) via a phone call followed up by a letter.