



**CPCRN**  
Cancer Prevention and  
Control Research Network

# Data-powered decision making: One state's approach to improving colorectal cancer screening in underserved populations

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# Roadmap

- The rationale
- The approach
  - Defining target areas/regions for intervention
  - Selecting and adapting interventions
  - Quantifying the expected impact of interventions for specific areas/regions
  - Implementing interventions
  - Evaluating outcomes

# The rationale for CRC screening

Published Online First July 8, 2015; DOI: 10.1158/1055-9965.EPI-15-0082

Cancer Surveillance Research

Cancer Epidemiology Biomarkers & Prevention

## Where Can Colorectal Cancer Screening Interventions Have the Most Impact?

Rebecca L. Siegel, Liora Sahar, Anthony Robbins, and Ahmedin Jemal

### Abstract

**Background:** Although colorectal cancer death rates in the United States have declined by half since 1970, large geographic disparities persist. Spatial identification of high-risk areas can facilitate targeted screening interventions to close this gap.

**Methods:** We used the Getis-Ord  $G_i^*$  statistic within ArcGIS to identify contemporary colorectal cancer "hotspots" (spatial clusters of counties with high rates) based on county-level mortality data from the national vital statistics system. Hotspots were compared with the remaining aggregated counties (non-hotspot United States) by plotting trends from 1970 to 2011 and calculating rate ratios (RR). Trends were quantified using joinpoint regression.

**Results:** Spatial mapping identified three distinct hotspots in the contemporary United States where colorectal cancer death rates were elevated. The highest rates were in the largest hotspot, which encompassed 94 counties in the Lower Mississippi Delta

[Arkansas (17), Illinois (16), Kentucky (3), Louisiana (6), Mississippi (27), Missouri (15), and Tennessee (10)]. During 2009 to 2011, rates here were 40% higher than the non-hotspot United States [RR, 1.40; 95% confidence interval (CI), 1.34–1.46], despite being 18% lower during 1970 to 1972 (RR, 0.82; 95% CI, 0.78–0.86). The elevated risk was similar in blacks and whites. Notably, rates among black men in the Delta increased steadily by 3.5% per year from 1970 to 1990, and have since remained unchanged. Rates in hotspots in west central Appalachia and eastern Virginia/North Carolina were 18% and 9% higher, respectively, than the non-hotspot United States during 2009 to 2011.

**Conclusions:** Advanced spatial analysis revealed large pockets of the United States with excessive colorectal cancer death rates.

**Impact:** These well-defined areas warrant prioritized screening intervention. *Cancer Epidemiol Biomarkers Prev*; 24(8): 1157–6. ©2015 AACR.

Sections

The Washington Post

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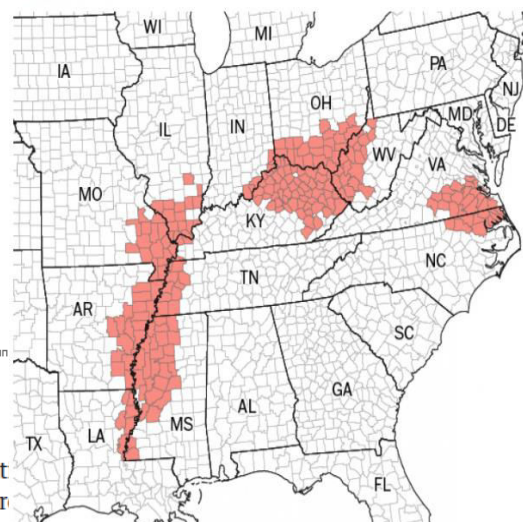
To Your Health

## The 3 hot spots in the U.S. with the highest colon cancer death rates

Although the risk of death from colorectal cancer in the United States has dropped dramatically in recent decades, there are three "hot spots" in Appalachia and the rural South where death rates are "unnecessarily high," researchers said. **By Lena H. Sun** July 8, 2015

### Hotspots for colorectal cancer

● Three clusters of counties with significantly high death rates, 2000-2009



## Translating Cancer Surveillance Data Into Effective Public Health Interventions

Stephanie B. Wheeler, PhD, MPH; Ethan Basch, MD, MSc

In this issue of *JAMA*, Mokdad and colleagues<sup>1</sup> report that cancer mortality has markedly decreased in the United States over the past 30 years. Based on data from the National

The greatest value of these data lies in their potent support scientific and public health priority setting through 3 key approaches.

**JAMA**  
The Journal of the American Medical Association

RN  
Join and  
Network

# The rationale for CRC screening

- Colorectal cancer (CRC) screening via colonoscopy or fecal testing (FOBT/FIT) is effective and saves lives.
- CRC screening is underused in both the U.S. (66% up to date) and N.C. (70% up to date)
- CRC screening is especially low among rural (& low income, uninsured, and minority) populations
- Decision makers need to know the most effective and efficient approach to close the gap in specific settings
  - Impact and efficiency of CRC screening interventions vary depending on local context
- How can healthcare systems be optimized to ensure that people receive CRC screening at the lowest cost?



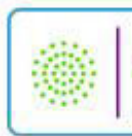


# CPCRN

Cancer Prevention and Control Research Network

# Cancer Prevention and Control Research Network:

*A national effort funded by CDC and NCI to advance the science and practice of dissemination and implementation in cancer prevention and control*



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The Cancer partners who conduct con geographic l flagship proj



## CPCRN

Cancer Prevention and Control Research Network

# Putting Public Health Evidence in Action

## Training Workshop

## Facilitator's Guide

Cancer Prevention & Control Research Network  
of the Prevention Research Center Program

[www.cpcrn.org](http://www.cpcrn.org)

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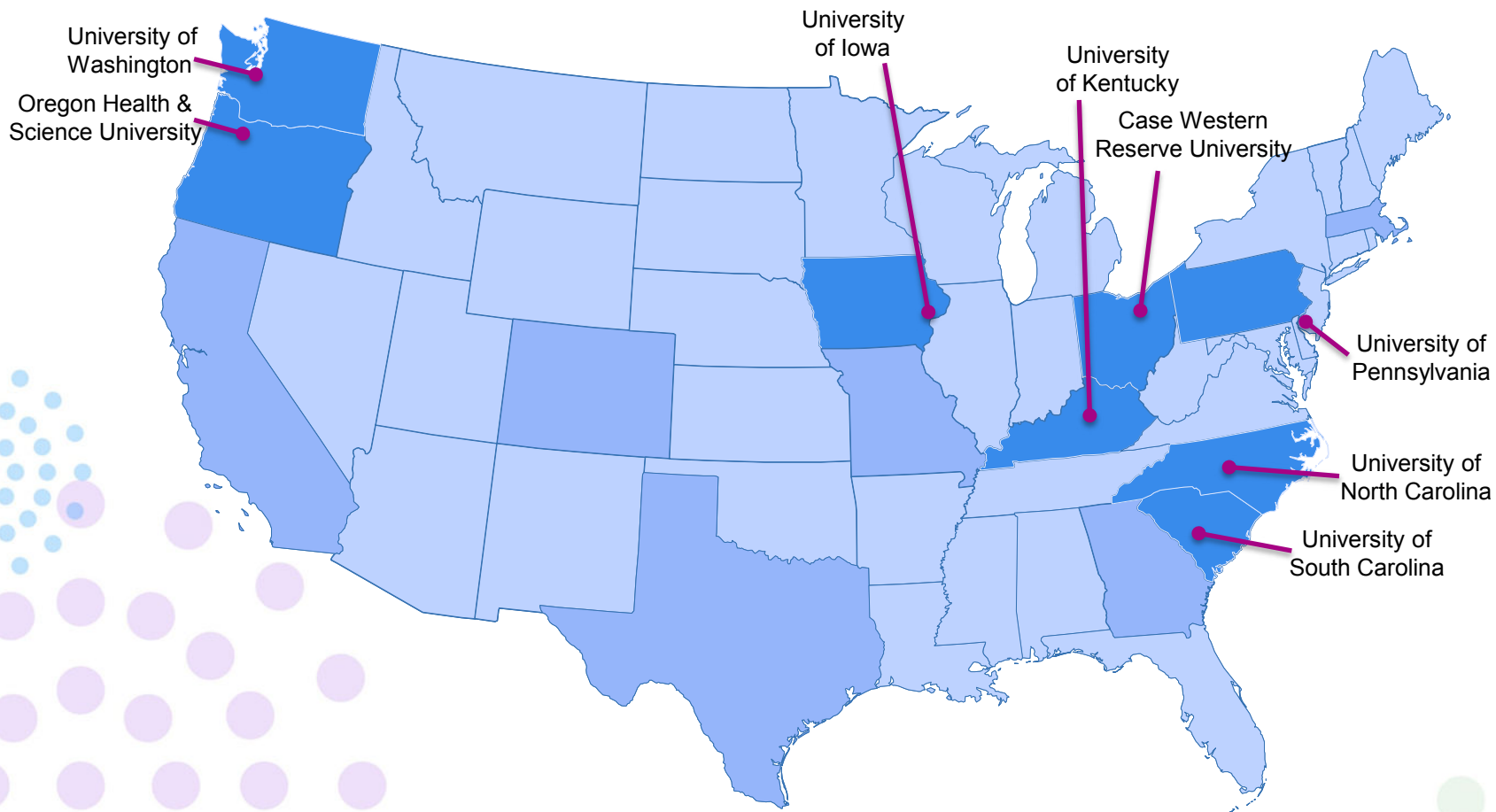
Contact Us



community members and re CDC's



# CPCRN Network Center Map



# Evidence-Based Intervention (EBI) Modeling Impact Workgroup

## **Purpose:**

To inform cancer screening implementation planning at practice, health system, and policy levels by integrating best available evidence into decision support models and using these models to conduct virtual comparative effectiveness research

## **Example Works in Progress:**

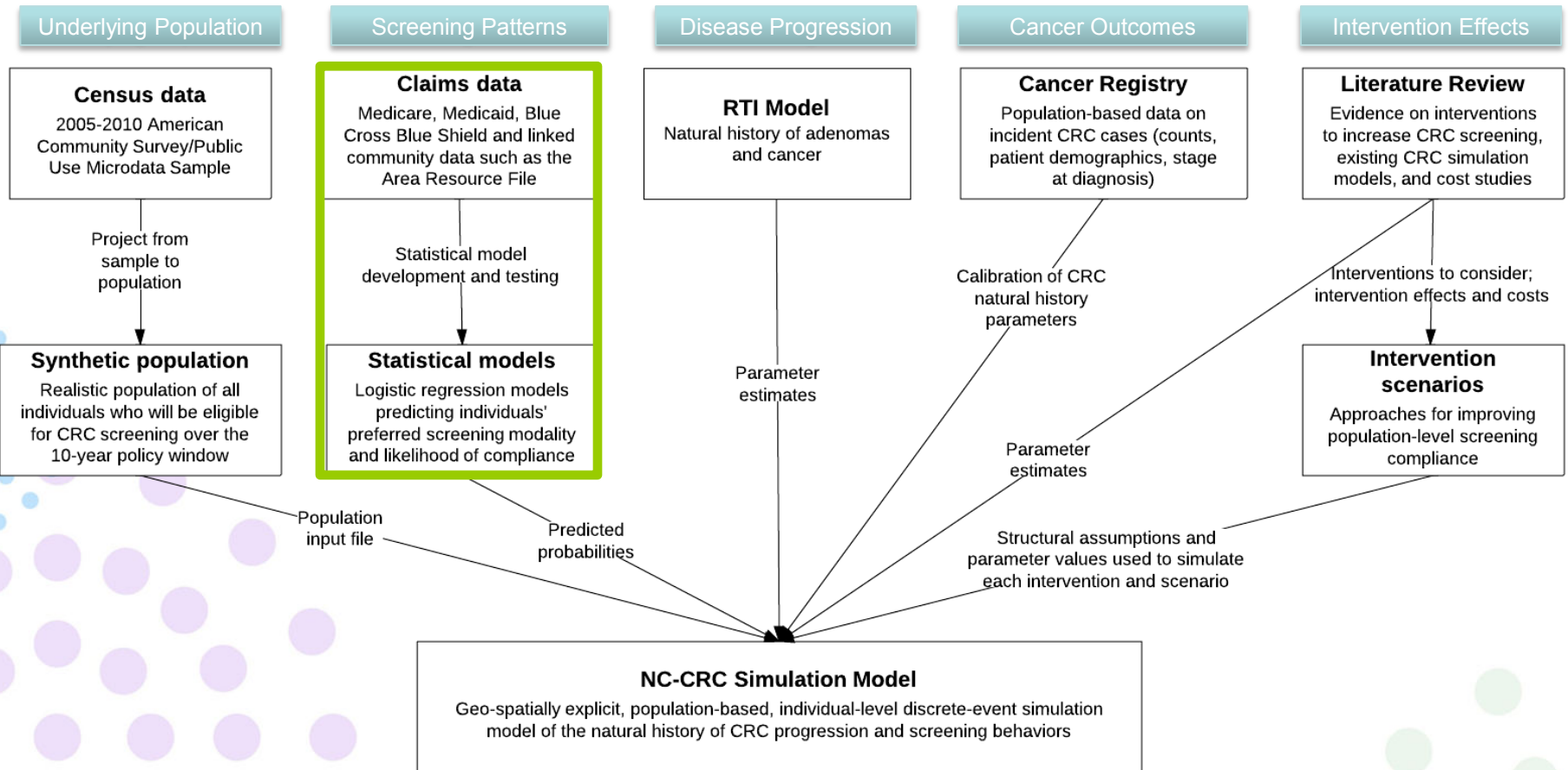
- Estimate statewide effect of health insurance coverage (via Medicaid expansion and health insurance exchanges) on costs and benefits of CRC screening in vulnerable populations
- Compare EBIs for improving CRC screening for Oregon's counties and regional Coordinated Care Organizations



# Why simulate?

- Mathematical simulations offer a systematic method to:
  - Incorporate a range of diverse data sources into a complex “whole system” model
  - Quantify the expected uptake and health and economic impact of implementing specific EBIs
  - Forecast outcomes over a longer time period than observed in traditional epidemiologic or experimental data
  - Evaluate uncertainty
- Mathematical simulations can aid in:
  - Comparing specific EBIs to each other (selection and adaptation)
  - Evaluating implementation strategies
  - Selecting relevant implementation outcomes
  - Evaluating clinical/comparative effectiveness outcomes

# Why simulate?



# Cancer Information & Population Health Resource (CIPHR)

## Unique linkages:

Cancer registry, multi-payer claims data (Medicare, Medicaid, private), SSI death index, BRFSS, other contextual data

## Health Care Claims:

>6m persons since 2003

## NC Cancer Registry:

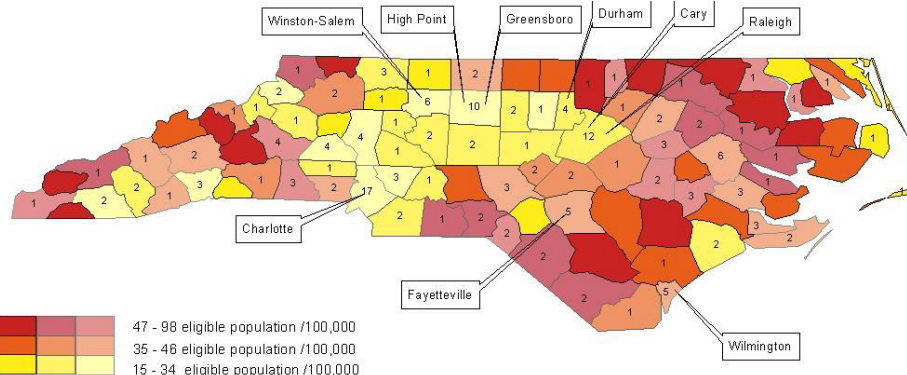
100% of 2003-2013

>500,000 cases

## Cases linked to claims:

80% of NC cancers

450,000



0-114 procedures /100,000  
115 - 479 procedures /100,000  
480 - 1462 procedures /100,000

\* Number showing in each county are the number of endoscopy facilities

## Key collaborators

May Kuo  
Anne Marie Meyer  
Chris Baggett

## Shared resources

4 Systems developers  
6 Analysts  
1 program coordinator

## Funding

1-U48-DP005017-01

## Key pubs (>50)

Meyer et al, NCMJ, 2014  
Wheeler et al, H&P, 2014  
Wheeler et al, Medical Care, 2013  
Wheeler et al, Prev Med Reports, 2016



# OHSU Center for Health Systems Effectiveness

## Unique linkages:

Oregon All Payer All Claims database (Medicare, Medicaid, private insurers), other contextual data

## Health Care Claims:

From 2007 for Medicare and Medicaid; 2010 for private)

## Key collaborators

John McConnell

Melinda Davis

Stephanie Renfro

## Shared resources

3 Health economists

5 Statisticians

3 Research assistants

1 program coordinator

## Funding

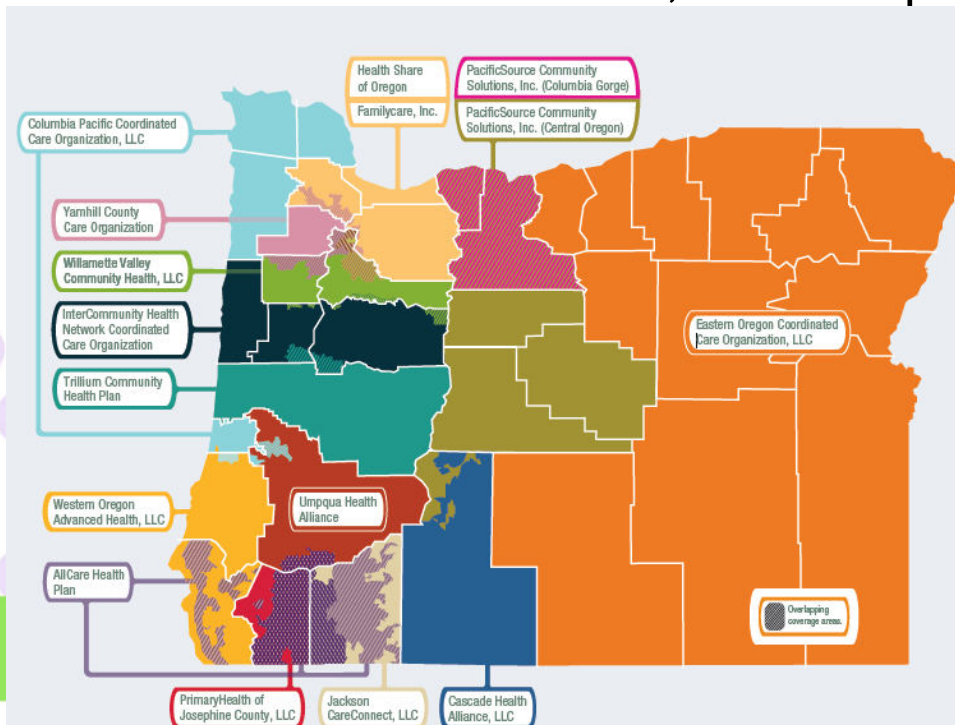
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## Key pubs (>52)

McConnell et al,  
Health Affairs, 2017

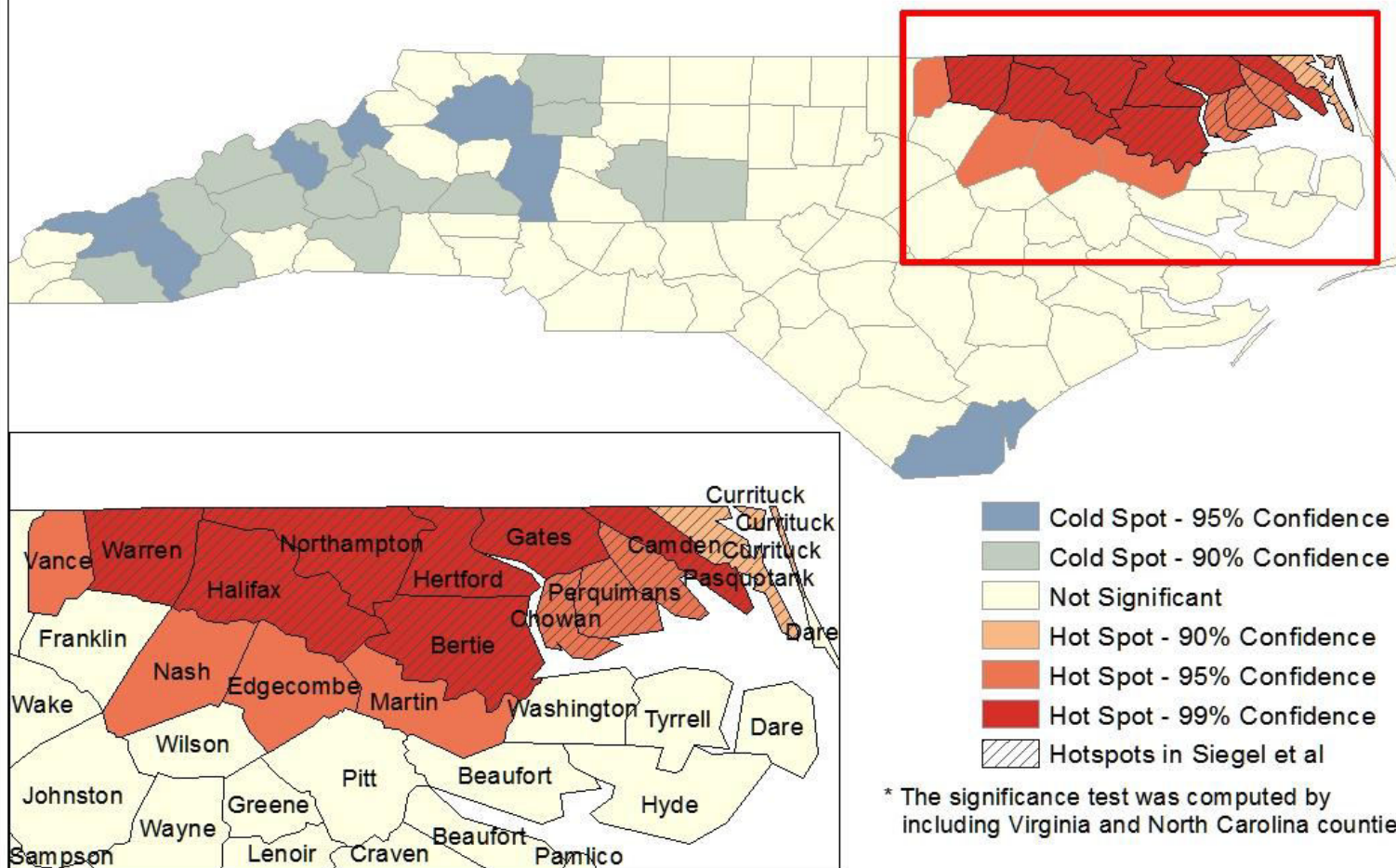
Davis et al, J of Rural  
Health, 2016

Charlesworth et al,  
JAMA IM, 2016



# Defining target areas for intervention

Hotspots of Age-Adjusted Colorectal Cancer Mortality Rate in North Carolina\*



\* The significance test was computed by including Virginia and North Carolina counties

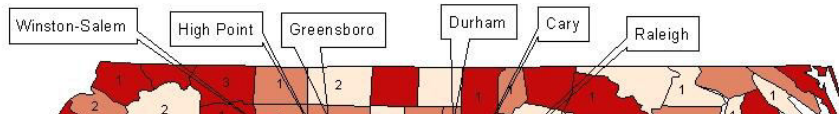
# Selecting and adapting evidence based interventions for local implementation

Level	Approaches
Policy	Payment model reforms (e.g., Medicaid and private insurance expansion) Access to care for uninsured (e.g., CDC-funded CRC control program)
System	Care coordination (e.g., through medical homes, ACOs) Improving health IT infrastructure <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Population identification</li><li>• Visit-based reminders</li><li>• Tracking systems/registries</li></ul>
Provider	Provider outreach, education Quality reporting and incentives to meet screening goals
Patient/Person	Decision aids delivered at visit Patient navigation support Community outreach, education, media campaigns Client reminders

# Selecting and adapting evidence based interventions for local implementation

Intervention	Effect Size	Base (\$)	Cost Components
Medicaid Mailed Reminder	5%age point increase in p(screen)	\$10,000	Develop registry & content (one-time)
		\$200 / year	Programming time
		\$0.71 / reminder	Materials (postage, paper, ink)
		\$3,850 / year	Mail reminders
Endoscopy Expansion	Individually-specific predicted p(screen) based upon claims-based statistical models	\$500,000 / facility	Financial incentive to locate facility in 6 underserved areas
Targeted Mass Media	Will reach 80% of blacks, 2%age point increase in p(screen)	\$368,000 / year	Content development (one-time)
	Will reach 40% of non-blacks, 1%age point increase in p(screen)	\$332,000 / year	Advertising for one month
Voucher for uninsured	500 uninsured individuals turning 50 will receive colonoscopies	\$750 / person	Voucher for colonoscopy

# Quantifying the expected impact of interventions for specific areas/regions



Endoscopy proximity

## PREVENTING CHRONIC DISEASE

PUBLIC HEALTH RESEARCH, PRACTICE, AND POLICY

Volume 14, E18

FEBRUARY 2017

ORIGINAL RESEARCH

### Cost-Effectiveness Analysis of Four Simulated Colorectal Cancer Screening Interventions, North Carolina

Kristen Hassmiller Lich, PhD<sup>1</sup>; David A. Cornejo<sup>2</sup>; Maria E. Mayorga, PhD<sup>2</sup>;

Michael Pignone, MD, MPH<sup>3,4,5,6</sup>; Florence K.L. Tangka, PhD<sup>7</sup>;

Lisa C. Richardson, MD, MPH<sup>7</sup>; Tzy-Mey Kuo, PhD, MPH<sup>3</sup>; Anne-Marie Meyer, PhD<sup>3,8</sup>;

Ingrid J. Hall, PhD, MPH<sup>7</sup>; Judith Lee Smith, PhD<sup>7</sup>; Todd A. Durham, MS<sup>1</sup>;

Steven A. Chall, MS<sup>9</sup>; Trisha M. Crutchfield, MHA, MSIS<sup>4,6</sup>;

Stephanie B. Wheeler, PhD, MPH<sup>1,3,4</sup>

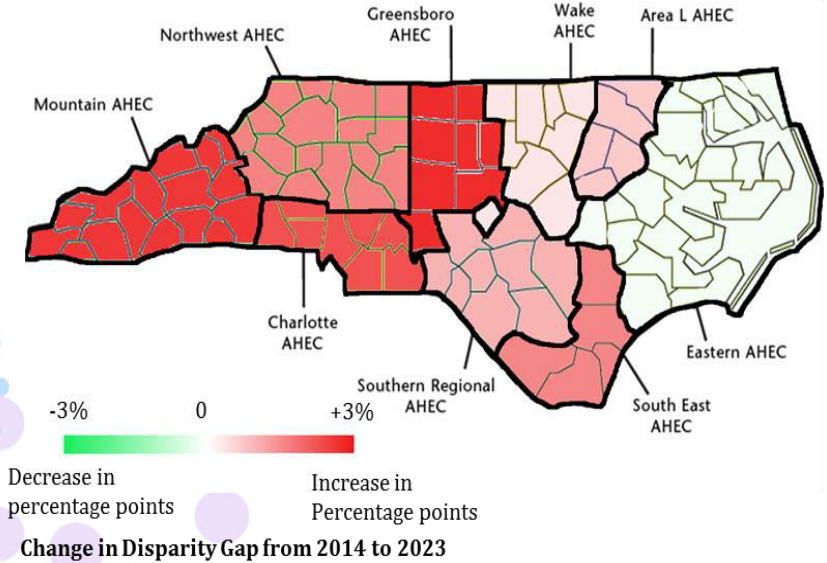
screening, at low cost.

0 100,000 200,000 300,000 400,000  
Additional persons screened for CRC

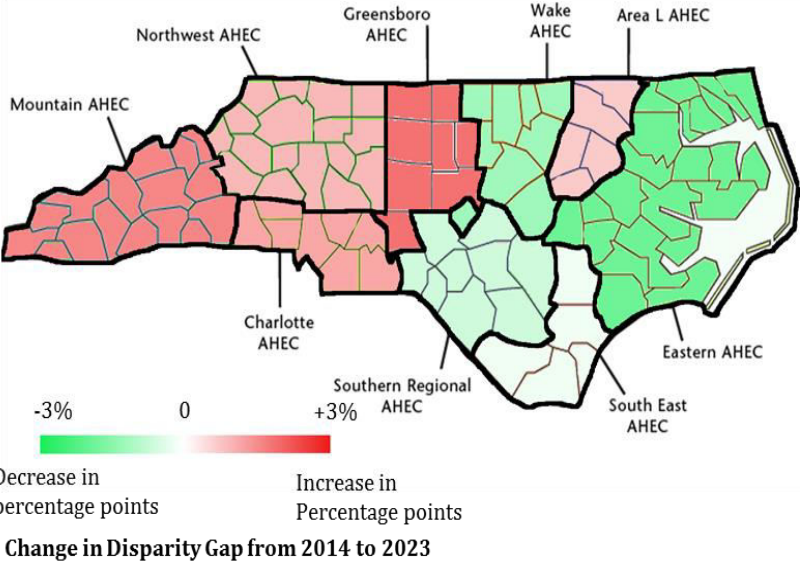


# Impact of Medicaid expansion: Expected change in disparity gap between White and African American males in the percent up-to-date with colorectal cancer screening from baseline to 2023 by NC region

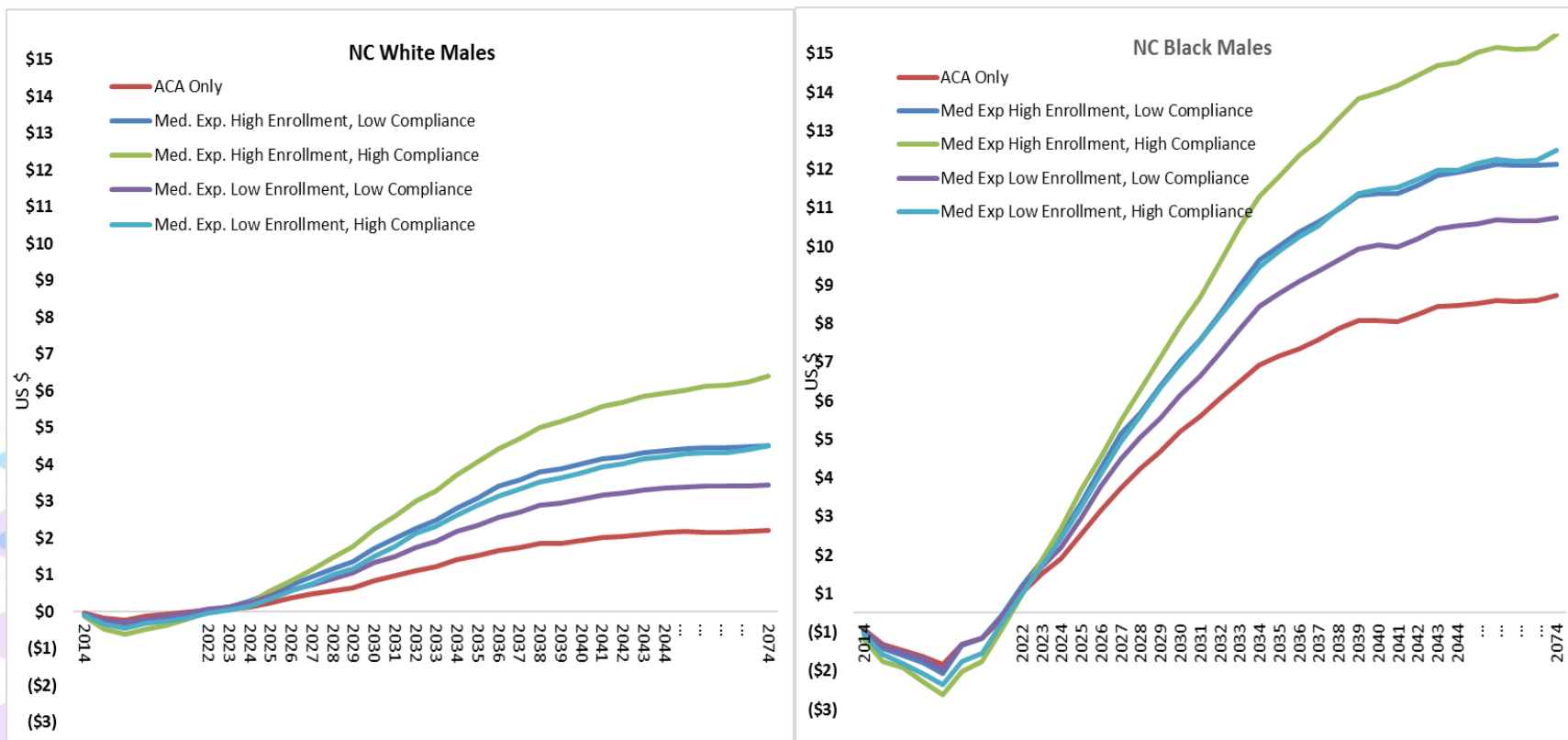
Control



Medicaid Expansion (High Enrollment and Compliance)



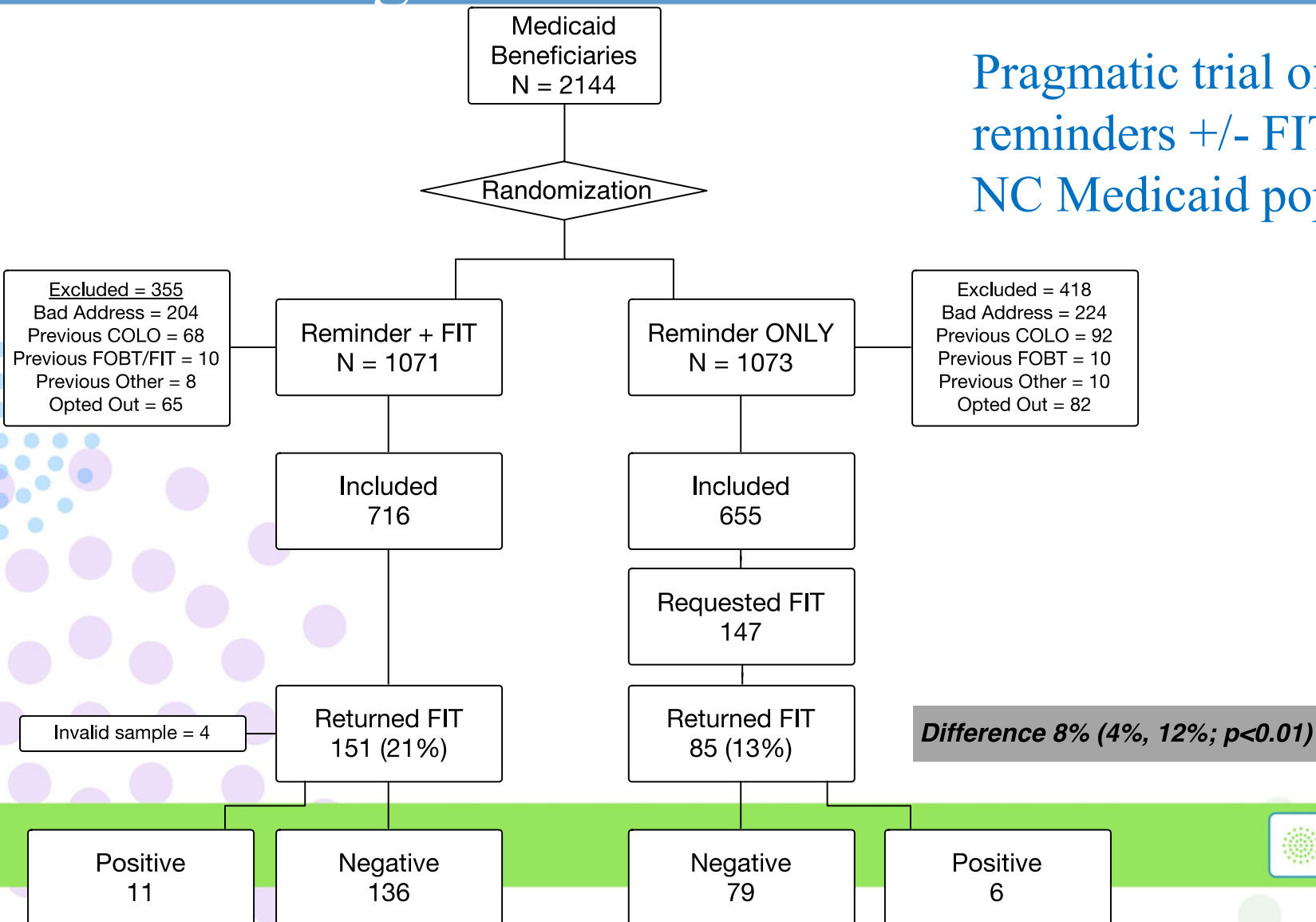
# Impact of Medicaid expansion: Differences in cumulative CRC screening and treatment cost savings per person between policy scenarios



**ACA and Medicaid Expansion result in substantial long-term cost savings, especially for African American males**

# Implementing interventions and evaluating outcomes

Pragmatic trial of mailed reminders +/- FIT kits in NC Medicaid populations



# What's next for the Modeling EBI workgroup?

- What would it take to get to 80% by 2018 in NC? In OR?
- How can we best integrate decision support modeling with implementation science for CRC screening?
  - To inform implementation of specific CRC screening EBIs in geographically distinct areas and populations:
    - Urban, publicly insured populations
    - Federally qualified health centers (FQHCs)
    - Coordinated Care Organizations (CCOs) in OR
    - Eastern NC
  - To develop best practices for using simulation in stakeholder implementation decision support



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# Realizing impact

- Outcomes/Products
  - Increased CRC screening
  - Evidence to inform **value**
  - Publications, policy briefs, white papers, presentations, etc.
- Dissemination/Implementation
  - National level: CDC, NCI, Moonshot, National CRC Roundtable
  - Provider or State level: Medicaid, CCNC, DPH, NC Roundtable

ORIGINAL RESEARCH

## Cost-Effectiveness Analysis of Four Simulated Colorectal Cancer Screening Interventions, North Carolina

Kristen Hassmiller Lich, PhD<sup>1</sup>; David A. Corneo<sup>2</sup>; Maria E. Mayorga, PhD<sup>2</sup>; Michael Pignone, MD, MPH<sup>3,4,5,6</sup>; Florence K.L. Tangka, PhD<sup>7</sup>; Lisa C. Richardson, MD, MPH<sup>7</sup>; Tzy-Mey Kuo, PhD, MPH<sup>8</sup>; Anne-Marie Meyer, PhD<sup>1,8</sup>; Ingrid J. Hall, PhD, MPH<sup>9</sup>; Judith Lee Smith, PhD<sup>7</sup>; Todd A. Durham, MS<sup>1</sup>; Steven A. Chall, MS<sup>9</sup>; Trisha M. Crutchfield, MHA, MSIS<sup>5,6</sup>



Preventive Medicine

Available online 13 May 2017

In Press, Accepted Manuscript — Note to users



Geographic and population-level disparities in colorectal cancer testing: A multilevel analysis of Medicaid and commercial claims data

Melinda M. Davis<sup>a, b</sup>; Stephanie Renfro<sup>c</sup>; Robyn Pham<sup>b</sup>; Kristen Hassmiller Lich<sup>c</sup>; Jackilen Shannon<sup>b</sup>; Gloria D. Coronado<sup>d</sup>; Stephanie B. Wheeler<sup>a, b, e</sup>

In this issue of JAMA, Mokdad and colleagues' report that cancer mortality has markedly decreased in the United States

The greatest value of these data lies in their potential to support scientific and public health priority setting through



Health & Place

Volume 29, September 2014, Pages 114–123



## Regional variation in colorectal cancer testing and geographic availability of care in a publicly insured population ☆

Stephanie B. Wheeler<sup>a, b, c, d</sup>; Tzy-Mey Kuo<sup>b</sup>; Ravi K. Goyal<sup>b</sup>; Anne-Marie Meyer<sup>b</sup>; Kristen Hassmiller Lich<sup>a</sup>; Emily M. Gillen<sup>a</sup>; Seth Tyree<sup>b</sup>; Carmen L. Lewis<sup>b, c, e</sup>; Trisha M. Crutchfield<sup>c, d</sup>



Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

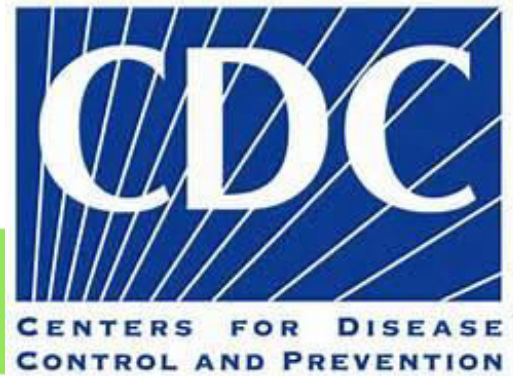
Preventive Medicine Reports

journal homepage: <http://ees.elsevier.com/pmedr>



Multilevel predictors of colorectal cancer testing modality among publicly and privately insured people turning 50

Stephanie B. Wheeler<sup>ab,cd,e</sup>; Tzy-Mey Kuo<sup>b</sup>; Anne Marie Meyer<sup>b,c</sup>; Christa E. Martens<sup>b</sup>; Kristen M. Hassmiller Lich<sup>a</sup>; Florence K.L. Tangka<sup>f</sup>; Lisa C. Richardson<sup>f</sup>; Ingrid J. Hall<sup>f</sup>; Judith Lee Smith<sup>f</sup>; Maria E. Mayorga<sup>g</sup>; Paul Brown<sup>h</sup>; Trisha M. Crutchfield<sup>cd</sup>; Michael P. Pignone<sup>bc,cd</sup>





Stephanie Wheeler,  
UNC

# Our Team



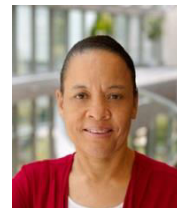
Florence Tangka,  
CDC



Mike Pignone,  
UNC



Melinda Davis,  
OHSU



Lisa Richardson,  
CDC



Kristen Hassmiller  
Lich, UNC



Stephanie Renfro,  
OHSU



Maria Mayorga,  
NC State



Justin Trogdon,  
UNC



Jackie Shannon,  
OHSU



Siddhartha Namibar,  
NC State



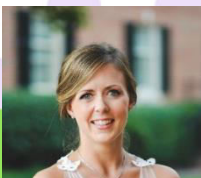
Paul Shafer,  
UNC



John McConnell,  
OHSU



Rachel Townsley,  
NC State



Sarah Drier,  
UNC



Leah Frerichs,  
UNC



# Relationships, Data, and Quality Improvement Infrastructure

Critical Factors when Accountable Care Organizations and Primary Care Practices Collaborate to Increase Colorectal Cancer Screening in Medicaid Members

PRESENTED BY: Melinda M. Davis, PhD, Director of Community Engaged Research, Associate Professor – Department of Family Medicine

DATE: August 14, 2017

LOCATION: CDC National Cancer Conference, Atlanta, MD



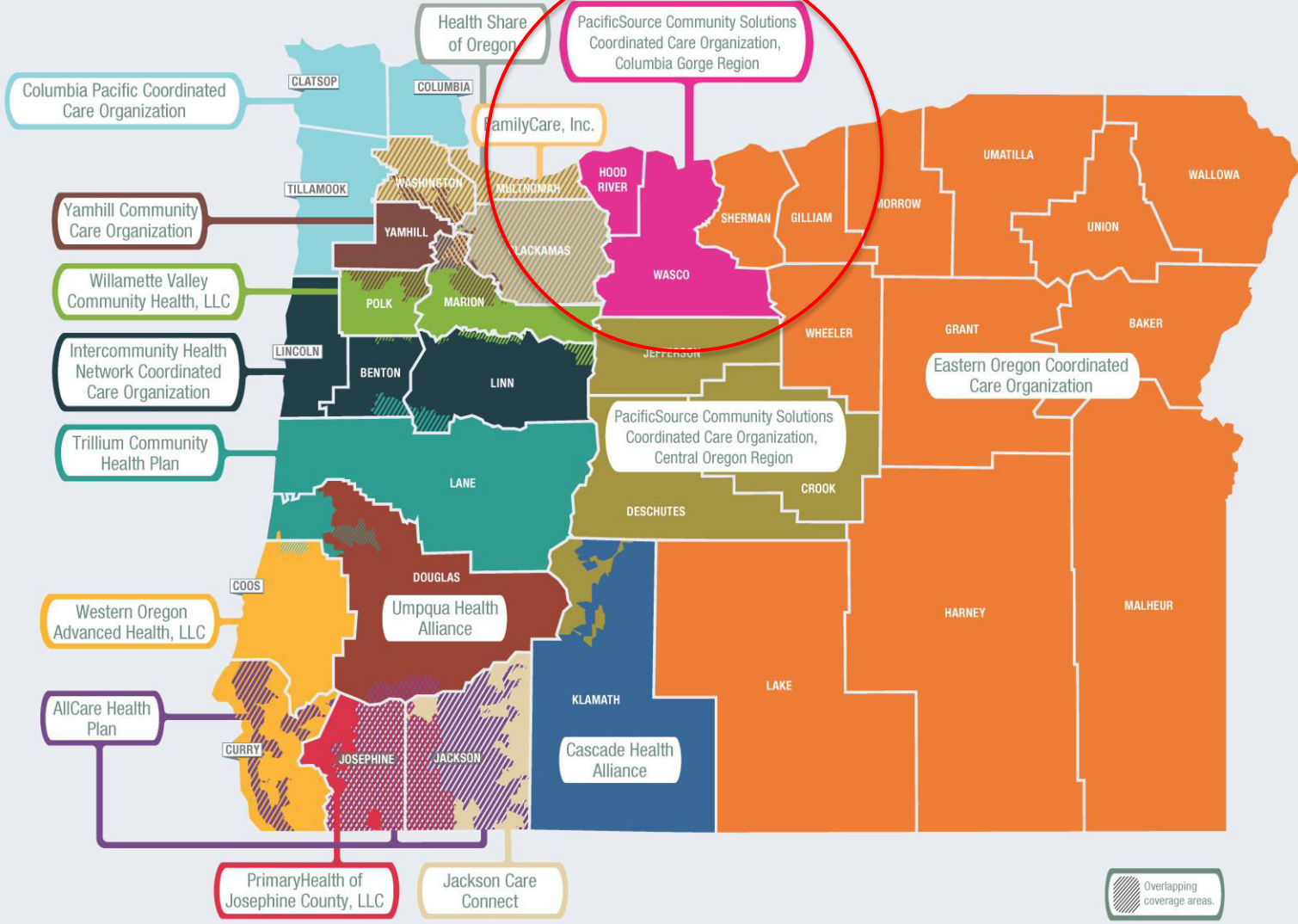


# Background

- Health system stakeholders are increasingly aligning as Accountable Care Organizations (ACOs) to support improved quality, experience, and controlled costs.
- Context:
  - Oregon’s Coordinated Care Organizations (CCOs, Medicaid ACOs) are the single point of accountability for health care access, quality, and outcomes of Medicaid members.
  - Colorectal cancer screening is one of 18 CCO quality incentive metrics.
- **Research Questions:** How are clinics and ACOs/CCOs working together to improve care (colorectal cancer screening)? What interventions are they implementing?



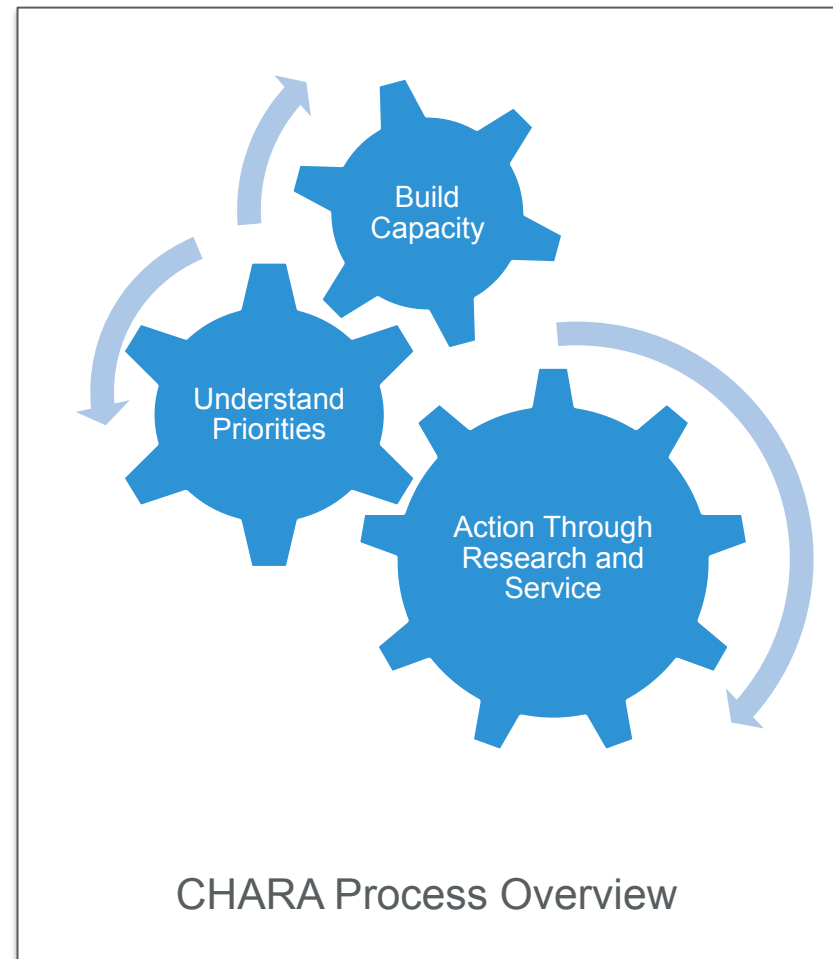
# Coordinated Care Organization Service Areas



# Community Health Advocacy and Research Alliance (CHARA)

- Location: Columbia River Gorge (PacificSource CCO Region)
- Established with funding from the PCORI Pipeline to Proposal Award Series (2014 – 2017)
- **Goal:** Network of community members, local health leaders and researchers who can “identify, develop, and conduct health research to answer questions that matter here.”

For more information: [davismel@ohsu.edu](mailto:davismel@ohsu.edu)  
<http://www.communityresearchalliance.org/>



# CRC Testing in Oregon: Multilevel Factors



Preventive Medicine

Available online 13 May 2017

In Press, Accepted Manuscript — Note to users



Geographic and population-level disparities in colorectal cancer testing: A multilevel analysis of Medicaid and commercial claims data

Melinda M. Davis<sup>a,b</sup>, Stephanie Renfro<sup>c</sup>, Robyn Pham<sup>b</sup>, Kristen Hassmiller Lich<sup>d</sup>, Jackilen Shannon<sup>e</sup>, Gloria D. Coronado<sup>f</sup>, Stephanie B. Wheeler<sup>d,g,h</sup>

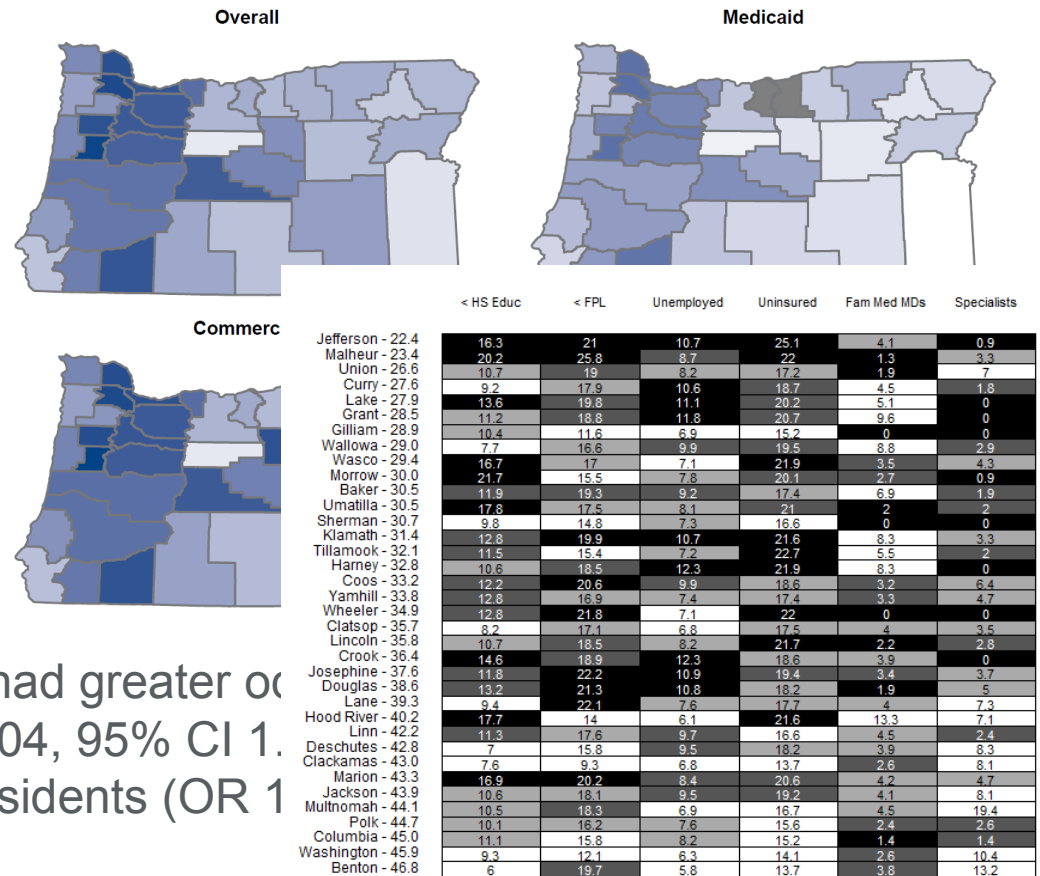
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<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ypmed.2017.05.001>

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## Highlights

- Despite insurance, 58% had not received colorectal cancer (CRC) testing.
- CRC testing varied from 22.4% to 46.8% across Oregon's 36 counties.
- Individual, community, and health system-level factors impacted CRC testing.
- Counties with higher socioeconomic deprivation displayed lower CRC testing.
- Work to increase CRC testing in targeted counties and populations is needed.



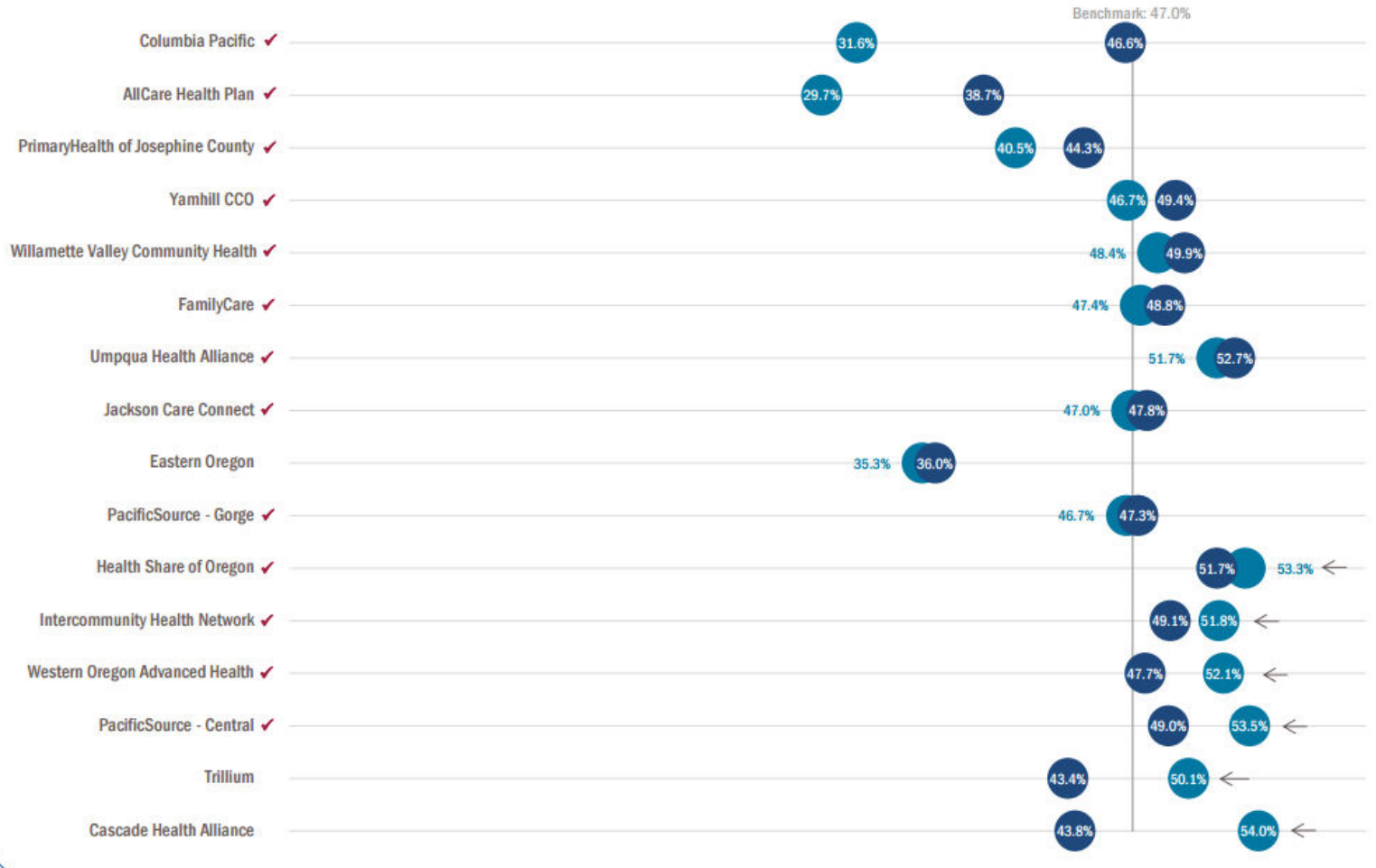
- Controlling for age, beneficiaries had greater or testing if they were female (OR 1.04, 95% CI 1.01-1.07), commercially insured, or urban residents (OR 1.12, 95% CI 1.03-1.21).
- Accessing primary care (OR 2.47, 95% CI 2.37-2.57), distance to endoscopy (OR 0.98, 95% CI 0.92-1.03) was associated with testing.



# CRC Screening in Oregon's CCOs

Thirteen CCOs achieved benchmark or improvement target for colorectal cancer screening between 2014 & 2015.

✓ indicates CCO met benchmark or improvement target



# Point Prevalence of CRC Testing in Oregon CCO Medicaid Members



Results displayed where number of cases (denominator)  $\geq 10$ .





# Methods

- Design & Setting: Observational cross case comparative study among Oregon's 16 CCOs
- Data Collection & Participant Sample:
  - CRC technical assistance consults with CCOs between June – July 2016
  - Semi-structured interviews with key stakeholders between February – August 2016
- Analysis: Fieldnotes & interview transcripts transferred to Atlas.ti and analyzed using data-driven, emergent approach

# Results - Participants

- Data gathered from 14 of 16 CCOs
  - 10 CCO consultations
  - 26 key informants: state innovator agents (n=4), CCO leadership (n=16) and primary care practice members (n=6)
- Over 30% of the informants (n=8) worked with more than 1 CCO.

# Results

- CCOs developed their strategies and infrastructure to work with clinics over time
- CCOs often started very lean: *“for over a year and a half, [the CCO] didn't lease a physical office space... They held meetings in their partners' offices.” (P12)*
- CCOs implemented multicomponent interventions to improve CRC screening

CRC Intervention Strategy	Component	Evidence-based?*
Increase community demand	Client reminders	Yes
	Client incentives	Insufficient
	Small media	Yes
	Mass media	Insufficient
	One-on-one education	Yes
Interventions to increase community access	Reducing structural barriers	Yes
	Reducing client out-of-pocket costs	Insufficient
Interventions to increase provider delivery	Provider assessment & feedback	Yes
	Provider reminder & recall	Yes
	Provider incentives	Insufficient

\* Based on the Guide to Community Preventive Services



# CCO Case Examples

*Regional efforts have focused on implementing incentive programs for members (\$20 Walmart gift card for returning a fecal test) and providers (\$50-\$100 when a patient completes screening). The CCO has improvement staff who leverage relationships with practices to provide education on their alternative payment method (APM) strategies, help create pop-up reminders in clinic EHRs, and provide patient gap lists. Additionally, CCO receptionists make reminder calls to patients that are due for screening.*

*...the CCO elected to implement a direct mail program modeled after Kaiser. CCO leadership worked with 4-5 clinics to pilot test the intervention and work out the kinks in the first year; this included learning to have clinics review member lists in advance. The program has expanded over time and recently transitioned from implementation by CCO staff to a contract with a vendor who supports material prep and distribution. The CCO also distributes money from the quality metric pool back to clinics that meet their CRC performance targets.*

# Results


CCOs addressed three key dimensions as they sought to improve CRC screening with regional clinics:

- 1) Establishing and building relationships
- 2) Producing and sharing data
- 3) Developing a process and infrastructure to support quality improvement (QI)

# 1) Establishing Relationships

Relationships and physical proximity were critical in building trust, buy-in, and shared decision making for improvement activities by CCO and clinic partners.

*“...[CCO A] did not exist as an entity on the ground before...for us in [rural] Oregon, Portland can sometimes be a million miles away...Versus [CCO B] that has a physician led organization and the community...you knew the players from that one [from the start].” (P15)*



*“I think that's the way we've been able to achieve anything [is by building and leveraging relationships]. It has to be a partnership with the clinic, because we really are a guest in their clinics, so you can't just go in there and tell them what to do.”*

- CCO Staff, P9

## 2) Producing and Sharing Data

Multiple CCOs focused on generating and producing actionable data to inform improvement efforts

- Some CCOs routinely, and strategically, shared data with member clinics
- Others were refining their approach

Clinics varied in their interest and ability to respond to performance data



*“We have really good reporting... We have gap lists that we can produce by clinic, by provider, by measure. We know who's got the most members and clients...so that we know where to target.”*

—CCO Staff, P10

*“...the reports that we had gotten from the CCO were not very helpful ... we would get reams of paper and about the fourth or fifth page in when three-quarters...weren't assigned to us we sort of saw them as unuseful and put them aside....*

- Clinic Member, P8

# 3) Developing a Process and Infrastructure to Support QI

Some CCOs led regional learning collaboratives and supported improvement staff

- Clinic-based panel managers and QI leads
- CCO-level improvement staff

*“[The CCO improvement staff] actually come [out here to] the clinic and say, “What do you guys need as a clinic? What can we do to help you?”...they do a lot of support for [clinic] management ...for implementation of metrics... They are really there to help operationalize [what] we need to do to show that we’re giving good care....They help with data collection...They're fabulous. I couldn't ask for anything more.” (P11)*

# Conclusions

- CCOs used multicomponent strategies to increase CRC screening
- Not all interventions had sufficient evidence, according to the Community Guide
- CCOs needed to address relationships, data, and QI infrastructure when working with clinics to increase CRC screening

→ similar steps for other quality metrics?



# Implications & Recommendations

- Health system and policy leaders must consider relationships, data, and QI infrastructure when implementing population health initiatives across diverse settings
  - Understand/assess/respond to local context
  - Allow prior history and experience to inform partnership goals
  - Set realistic improvement targets based on local capacity
- Use and equity-based participatory implementation science approach
- Monitor for unintended consequence: increasing disparities because of focus on “larger” clinics/systems

See also, Wheeler & Davis (In Press). “Taking the Bull by the Horns”: Four Principals to Align Public Health, Primary Care, and Community Efforts to Improve Rural Cancer Control. *Journal of Rural Health*.

# Acknowledgements

- **Co-Authors:** Rose Gunn, MA; Robyn Pham, BA; Amy Wiser, MD; Kristen Hassmiller-Lich, PhD; & Stephanie B. Wheeler, PhD
- **Facilitative Partners:** Adrienne Mullock & Patricia Schoonmaker, MPH

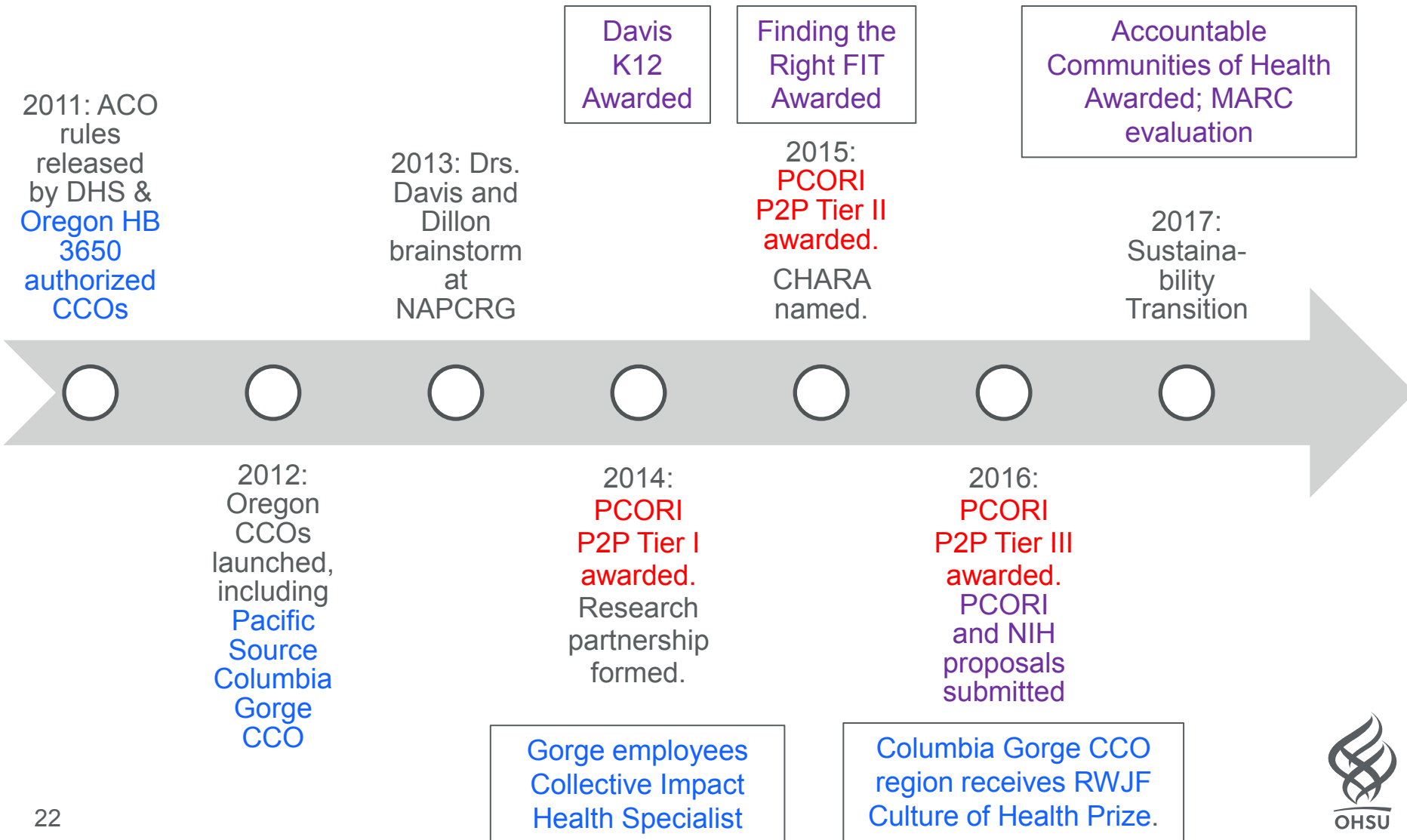
**Funding:** Dr. Davis has received support from an AHRQ PCOR K12 (Award Number 1 K12 HS022981 01) and National Cancer Institute K07 (1K07CA211971-01A1). The project was supported by Funding Opportunity Number CMS-1G1-12-001 from the U.S Department of Health and Human Services (HSS), Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. This presentation was supported by CPCRN cooperative agreements 3 U48 DP005006-01S3 and 3 U48 DP005017-01S8. The content provided is solely the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official views of these funders nor or any of their agencies.



Thank You

For more information: [davismel@ohsu.edu](mailto:davismel@ohsu.edu)

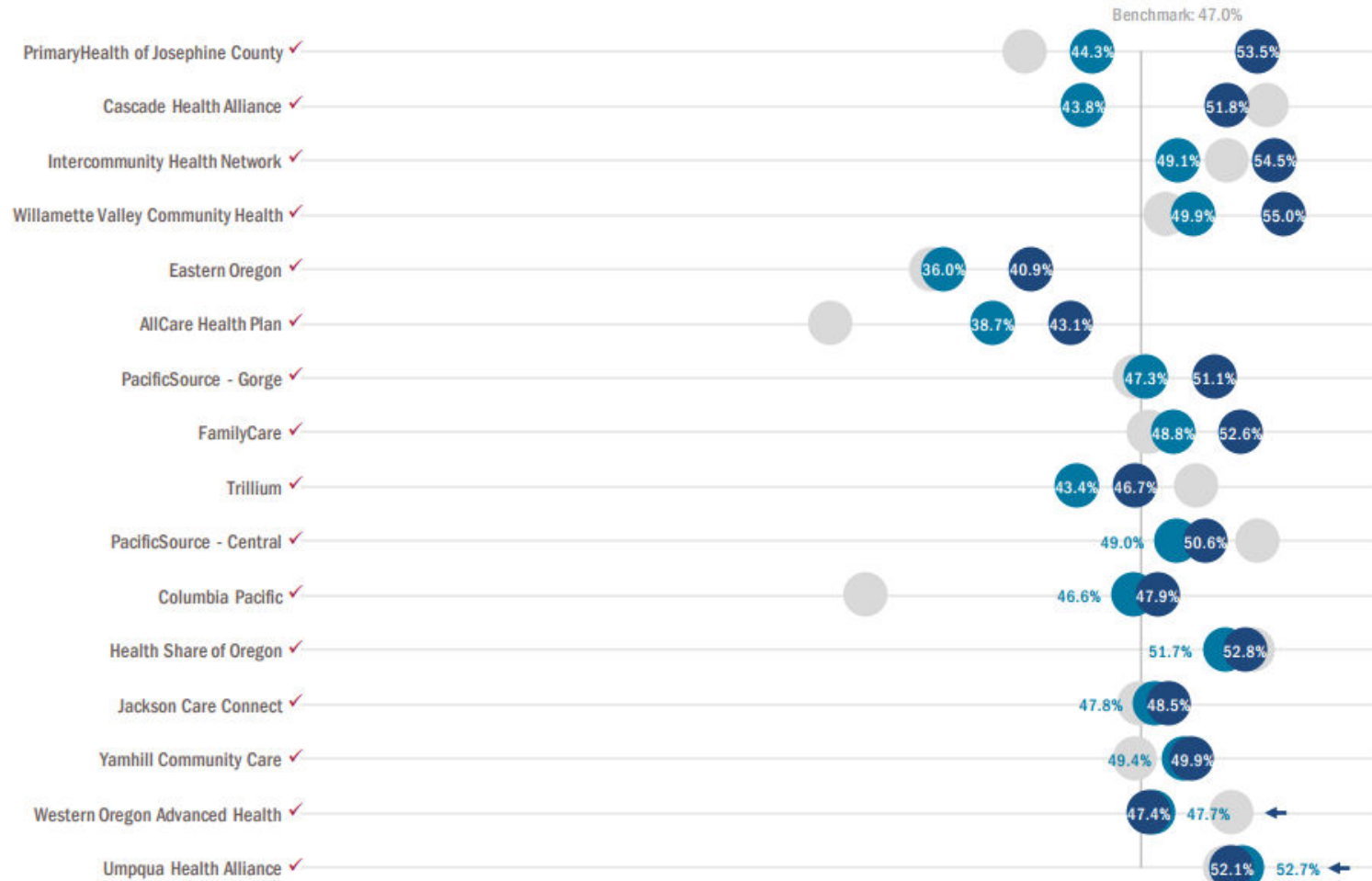
# Community Health Advocacy and Research Alliance (CHARA) Timeline



# CRC Screening in Oregon's CCOs

Percentage of adult members who had appropriate screening for colorectal cancer in 2015 and 2016, by CCO.

✓ indicates CCO met benchmark or improvement target / Grey dots represent 2014





**CPCRN**  
Cancer Prevention and  
Control Research Network

# Technical Considerations: the past, present and future of simulation modeling of colorectal cancer



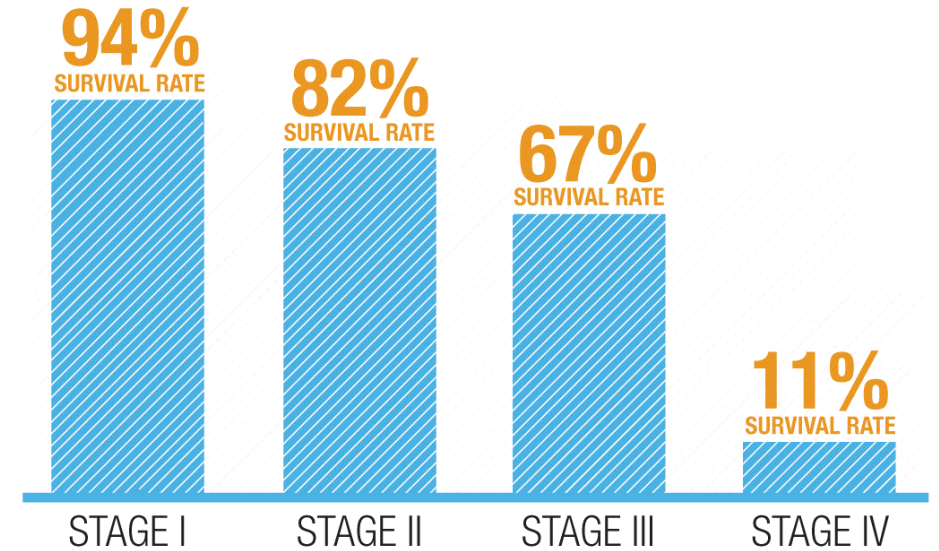
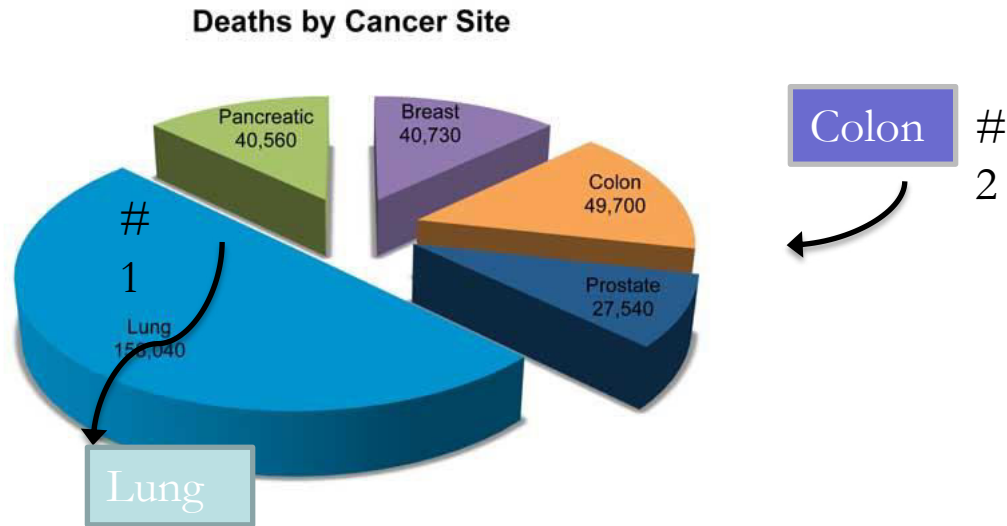
**EDWARD P. FITTS DEPARTMENT OF  
INDUSTRIAL AND SYSTEMS ENGINEERING**

**Siddhartha Nambiar, Rachel Townsley, Maria Mayorga  
North Carolina State University**

**Kristen Hassmiller Lich, Stephanie Wheeler  
University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill**

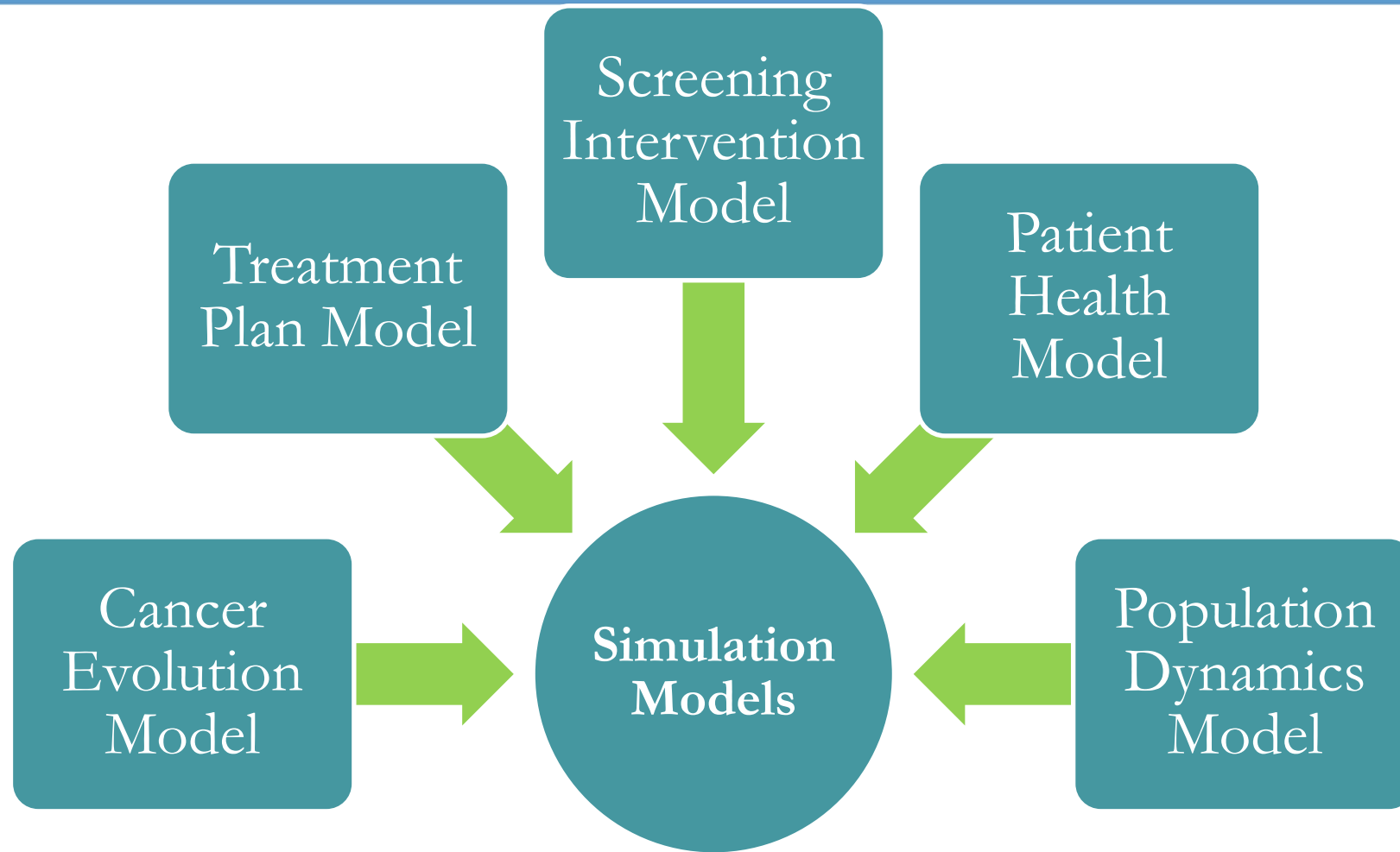


# Background on Colorectal Cancer



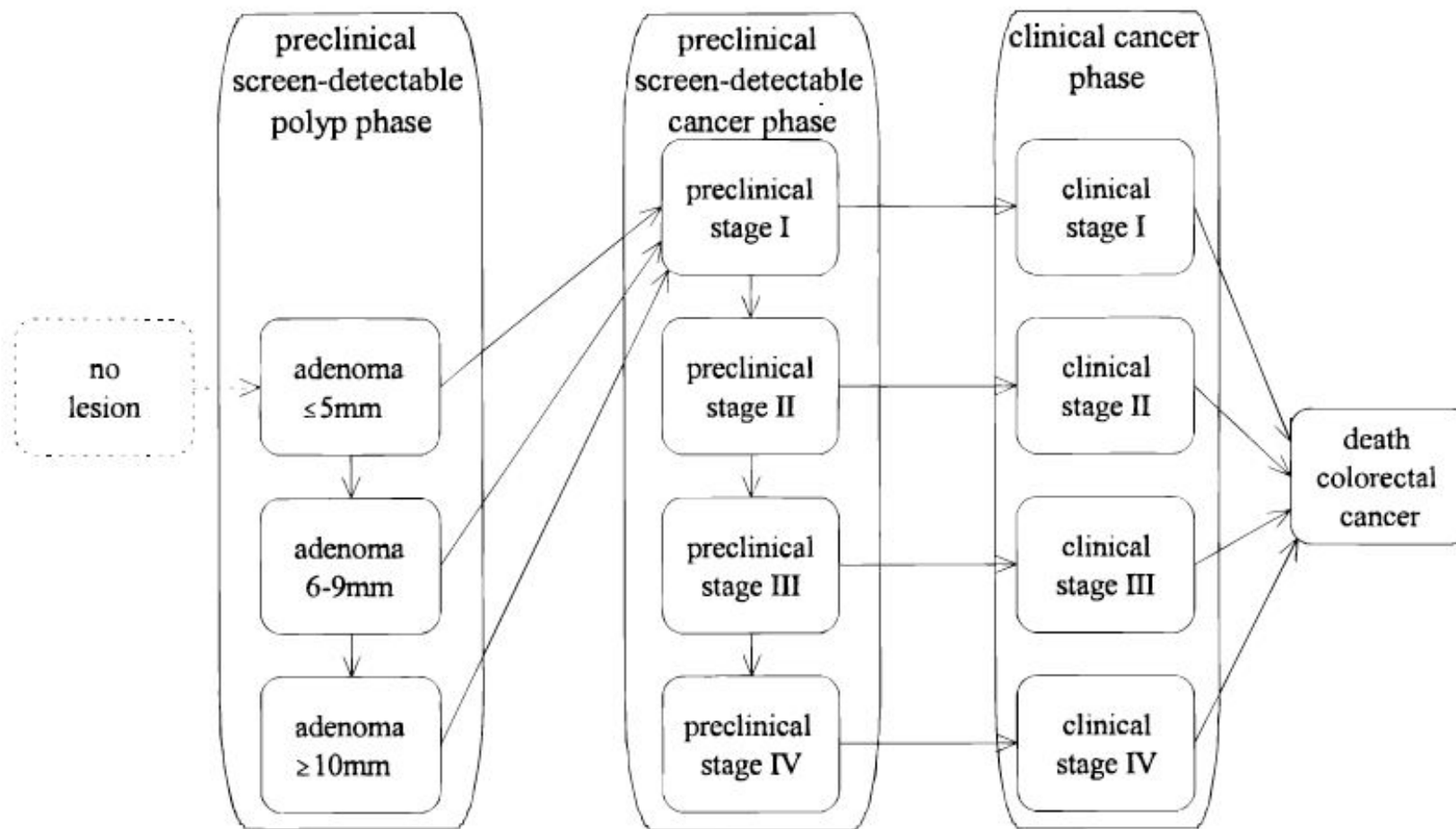
- In 2012 only about 65% of individuals were up-to-date with screening
- 27% had never screened
- Improving *screening rates* is a priority

# Elements of CRC Simulation Models





# Example Cancer Evolution Model



# CRC Simulation Model Paradigms

## Discrete Event Simulation Models

- Support for Individual Patient Simulation (IPS).
- Flexibility for patient-patient, patient-environment interaction.

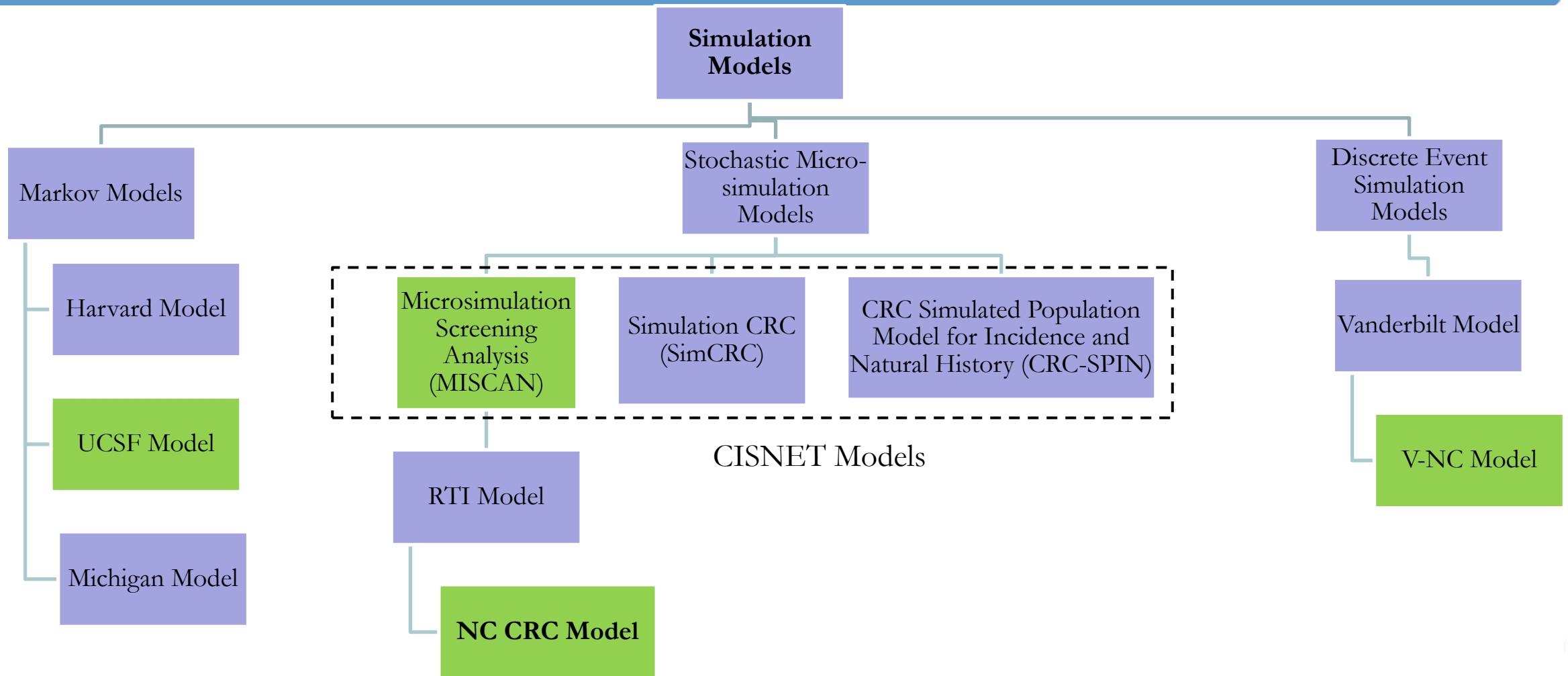
## Markov Models

- Enumerate health states a person will experience during the course of the disease.
- The changes in state are described using transition diagrams very similar to flow charts.

## Stochastic Microsimulation Models

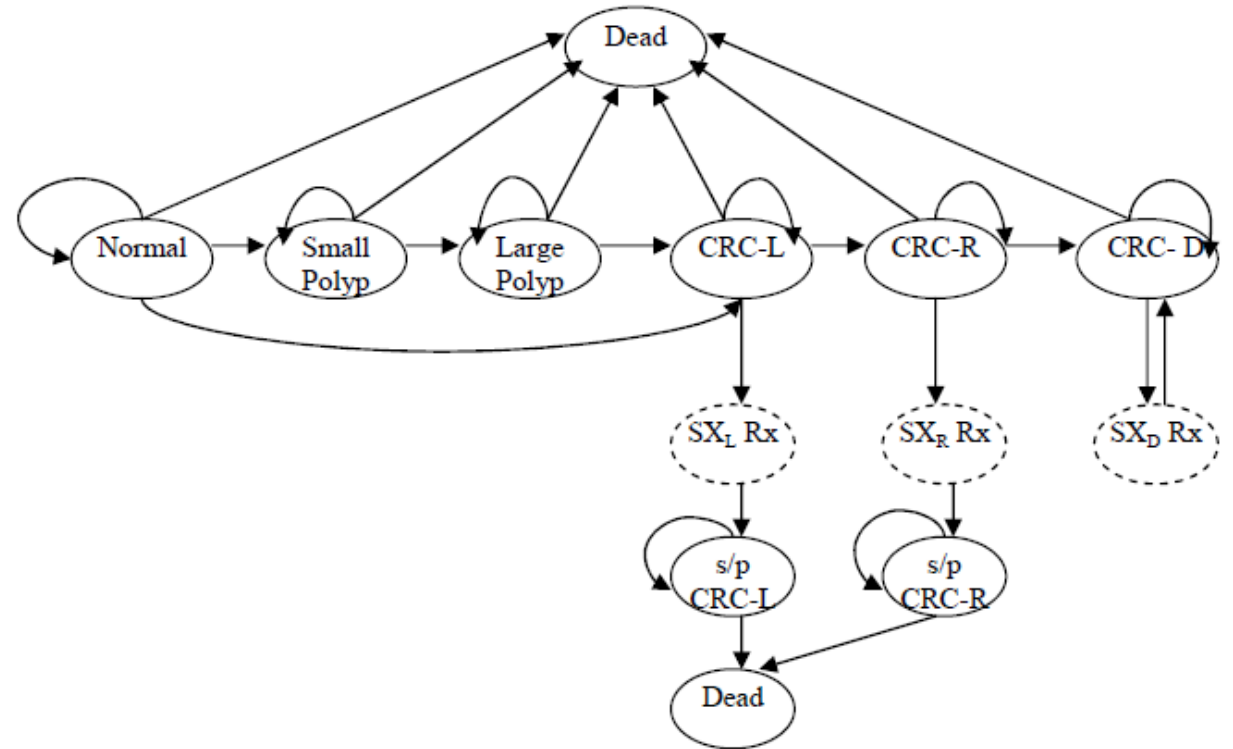
- “Stochastic” - Models simulate sequences of events by drawing from distributions of probabilities or durations.
- “Microsimulation” - persons are moved through the model one at a time.

# CRC Simulation Model- Development History



# Sample Markov Model Structure

- **UCSF (University of California, San Francisco) Model** - a cohort based Markov model from age 50 until death.
- Monte Carlo simulation that runs through the model 3500 times to determine approximate values for the percent of people in each state at a given time.
- Has a small probability for cancer to develop without developing from an adenoma.

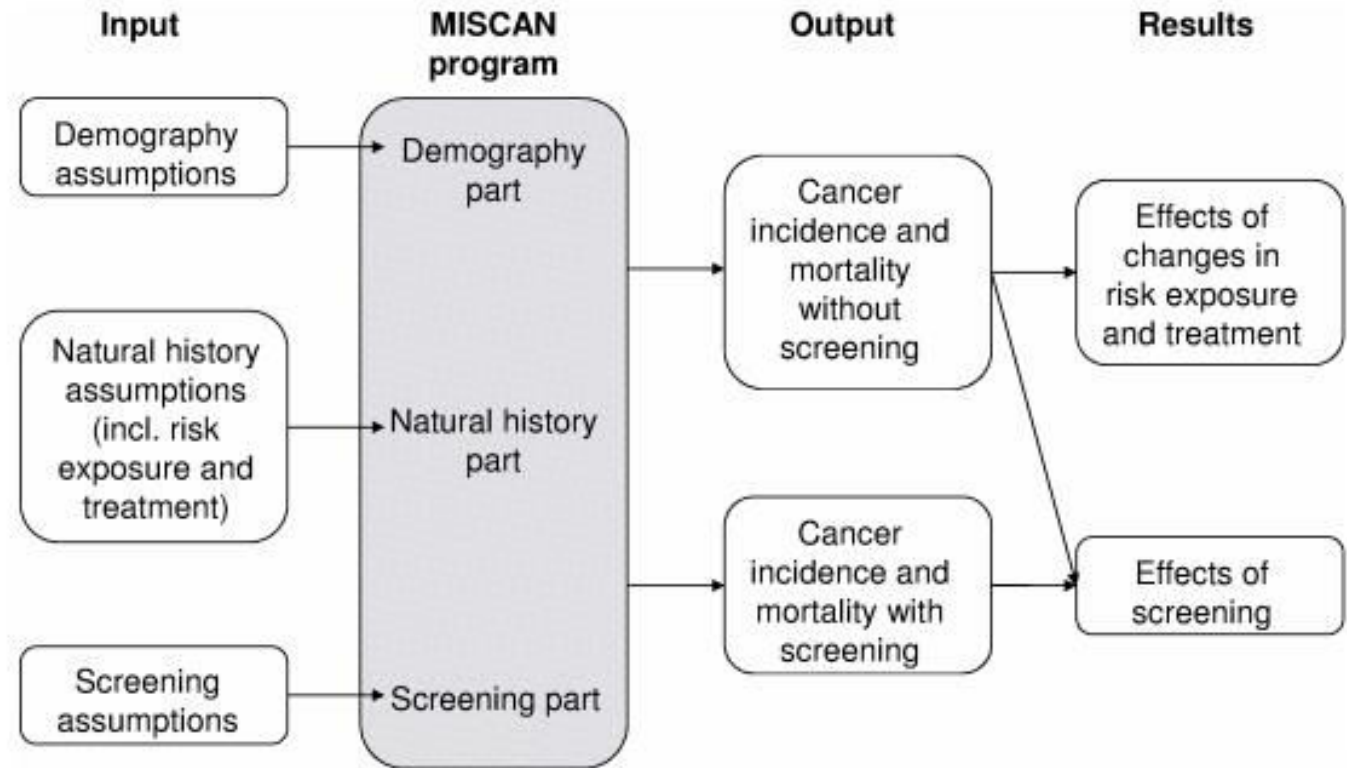


# V-NC Model

- Primary Simulation Objects
  - Employs an **OOS** (Object Oriented System), driven by a model-independent database.
  - Allows for convenient modeling of causal and treatment pathways.
  - The primary object in the CRC simulation is the **person**.
  - The replication will be terminated when the person dies or when statistics collection ends.

# MIcrosimulation SChreeing ANalysis (MISCAN)

- MISCAN–Colon is a micro–simulation program, generating individual life histories.
- Uses the Monte Carlo method to simulate all events in the program.
- Possible events are birth and death of a person, adenoma incidence and transitions from one state of disease to another.



# North Carolina Colorectal Cancer (NC-CRC) model

## Outline-

- Designed to support decision making regarding population screening for colorectal cancer within the state of North Carolina.
- Simulates cancer incidence and mortality by stage, age and calendar year.
- The model can be used to test the effects of various interventions on life-years and costs by increasing an individual's probability of being screened for CRC.

## History-

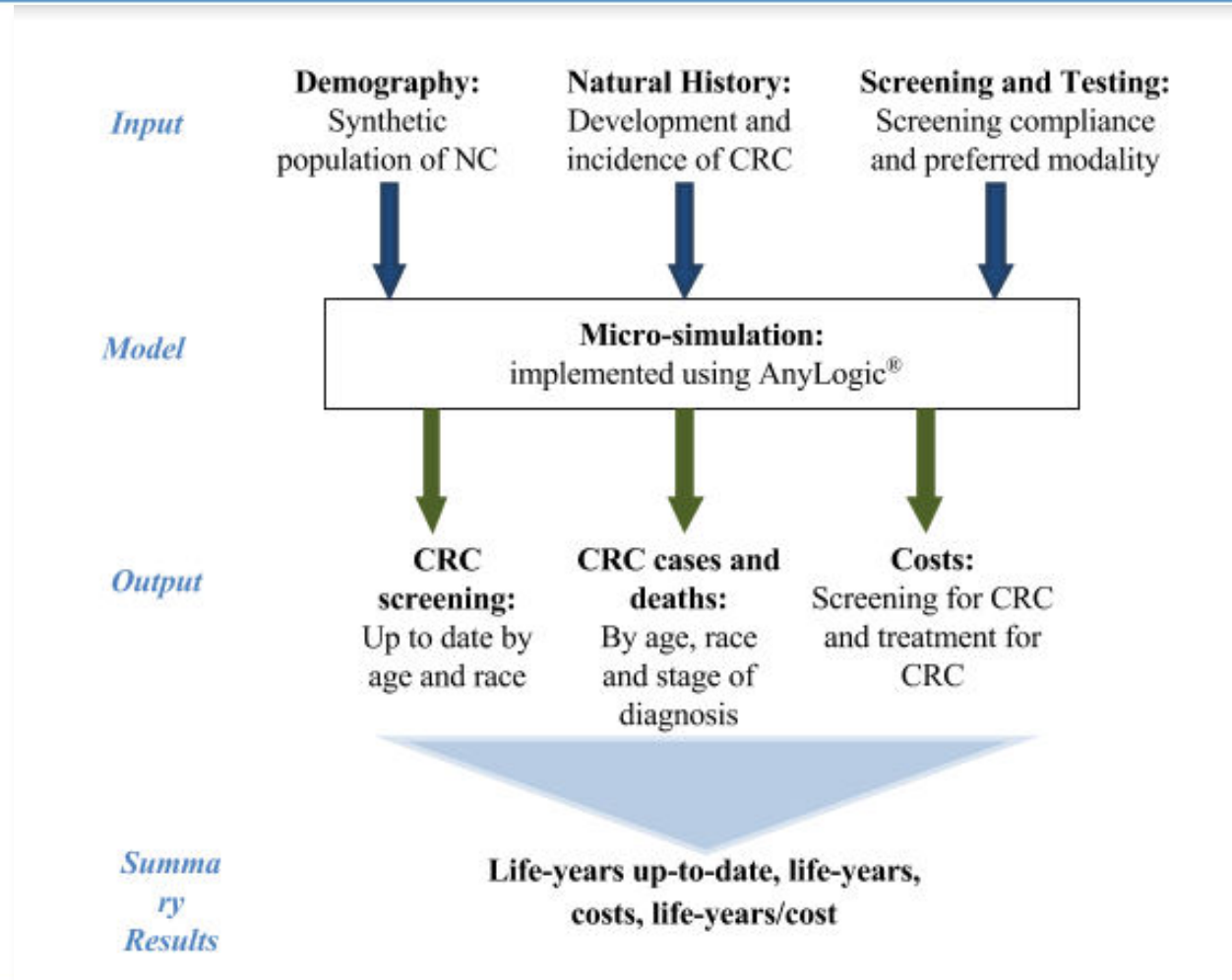
- Based significantly on the MISCAN-COLON model (Loeve et al. 1999) and the work of Subramanian and colleagues. (2005)

# Expansion on other simulation models

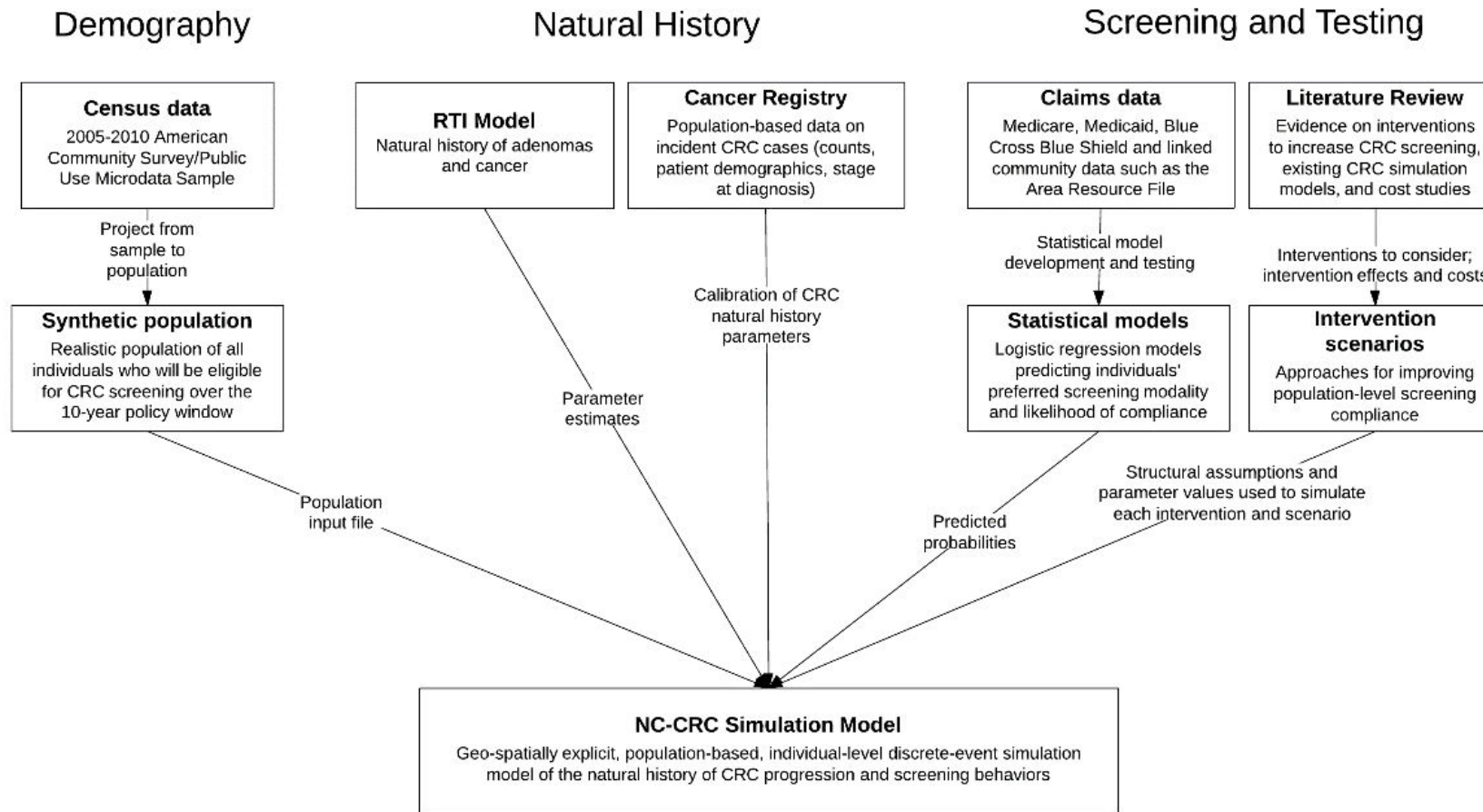
- **Applying statistical models** from administrative claims data to predict the preferred screening modality of individuals and compliance with screening.
- **Calibrating natural history parameters** so that the incidence, age and stage of CRC diagnosis closely match registry data specific to the state of NC.
- **Models insurance** and allows status to change over time.
- Incorporating the effects of **population-level interventions** to increase compliance with CRC screening recommendations.



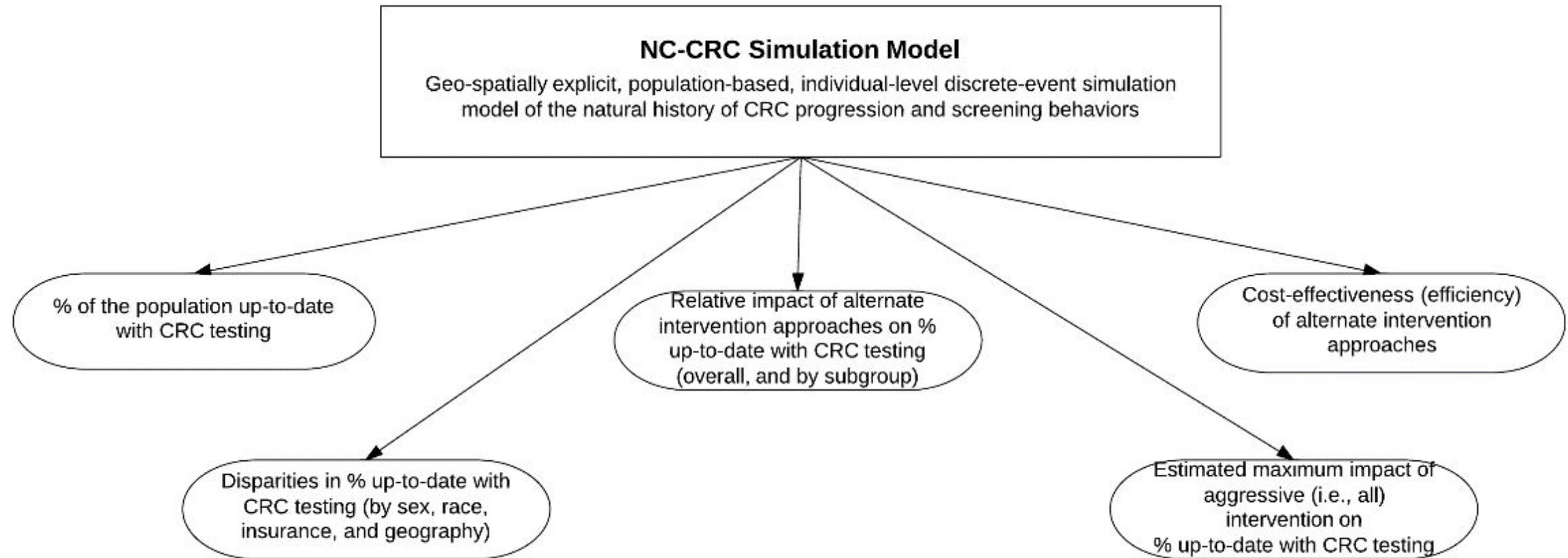
# Model Structure



# Elements of Models

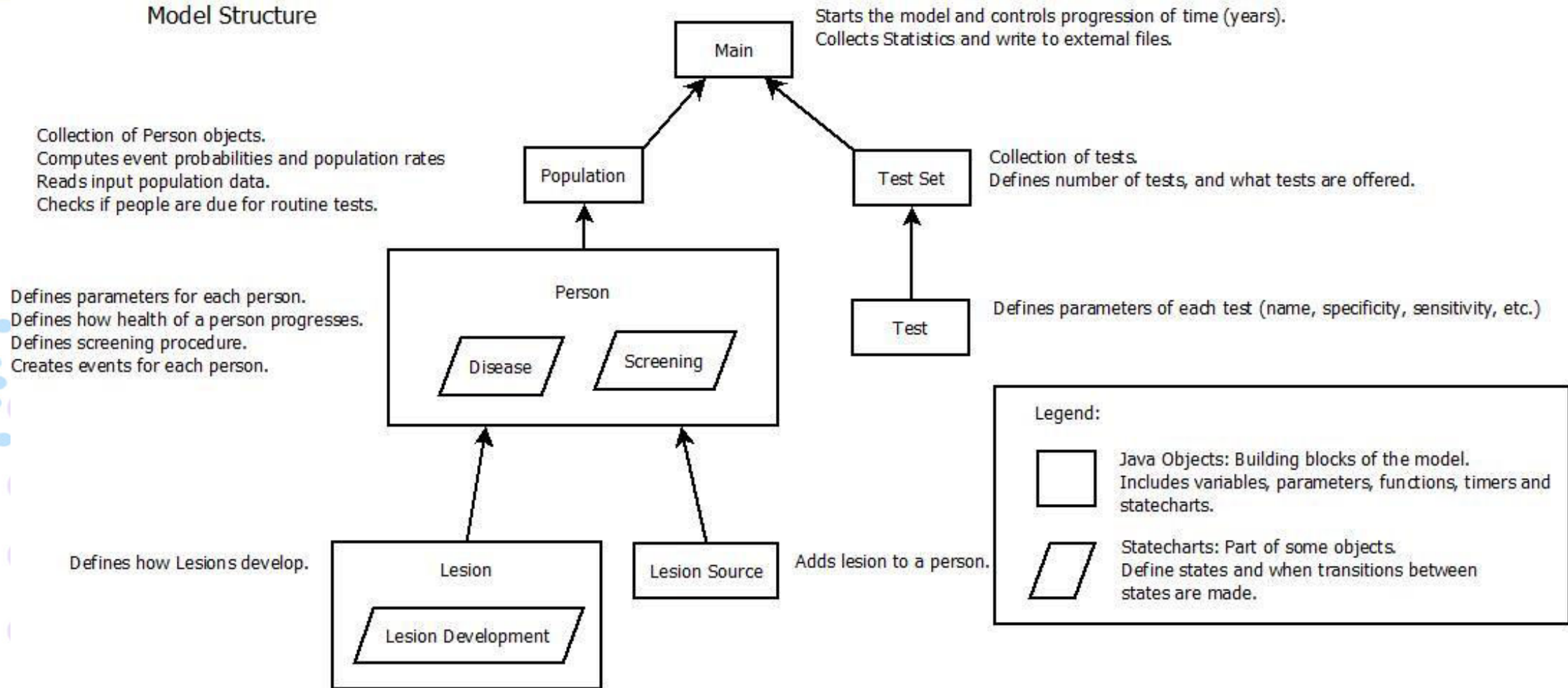


# Parameters- Output



# Object Based Model Structure

## Model Structure



# Limitations and Challenges

- Model is highly data intensive.
- Meant to inform population guidelines and is based on general population trends.
- Model can end up requiring extensive computational resources.



# Future of CRC Simulation Models

- Optimization algorithms to generate candidate follow-up strategies for specific patient subgroups.

Questions/Discussions/Comments?

# Acknowledgements

This publication presentation was supported in part by:

- Cooperative Agreement Number U48 DP005017-01S83 from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the National Cancer Institute.
- CDC SIP 11-041 “Behavioral economics of colorectal cancer screening in underserved populations” (Co-PIs: Pignone and Wheeler)
- AHRQ 1-K-12 HS019468-01 Mentored Clinical Scientists Comparative Effectiveness Development Award (PI: Weinberger; Scholar: Wheeler)
- NIH K05 CA129166 Established Investigator Award in Cancer Prevention and Control: Improving Cancer-Related Patient Decision Making (PI: Pignone)
- NC Translational and Clinical Sciences Institute Pilot Grant “Using systems science methods to improve colorectal cancer screening in North Carolina” (PI: Lich)
- CMMI-1150732 CAREER: Incorporating Patient Heterogeneity and Choice into Predictive Models of Health and Economic Outcomes”. National Science Foundation (PI: Mayorga)

# Additional Slides



# Assumptions(MISCAN)

- Demography Assumptions
  - The life table differs per birth cohort.
  - Death from colorectal cancer and death from other causes are considered independent from each other.
- Natural History Assumptions
  - Focus on the initiation, progression and response to treatment of colorectal cancer in the model.
- Screening Assumptions
  - Focus on all aspects of screening, including compliance and operational characteristics of the screening process.

# Statistical Model Description

$$\text{logit}(\pi_{ij}) = Y_{ij} = \beta_{0j} + \sum_k \beta_k X_{ik} + \sum_l \beta_l X_{jk} + \epsilon_{ij}$$

$$\pi_{ij} = \frac{e^{Y_{ij}}}{1 + e^{Y_{ij}}}$$

$\pi_{ij}$  - Probability of binary outcome (CRC Screening vs No Screen or Colonoscopy vs FOBT) for person  $i$  at county  $j$

$\beta_{0j}$  - County level intercept

$X_{ik}$  - Person level attributes ( race, gender, etc)

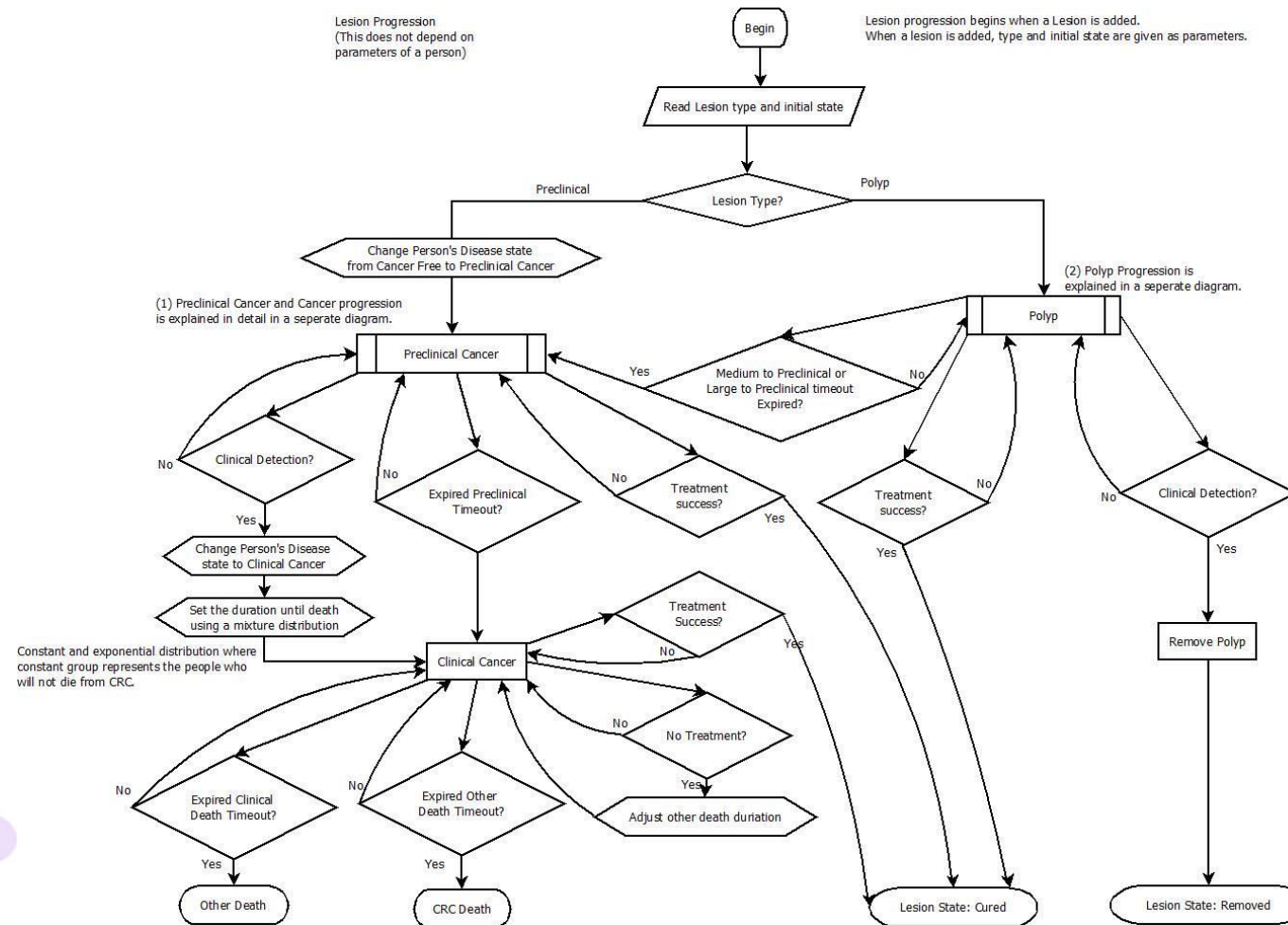
$X_{jk}$  - County level attributes (distance to endoscopy facility)

# Age Cohorts Included In Model

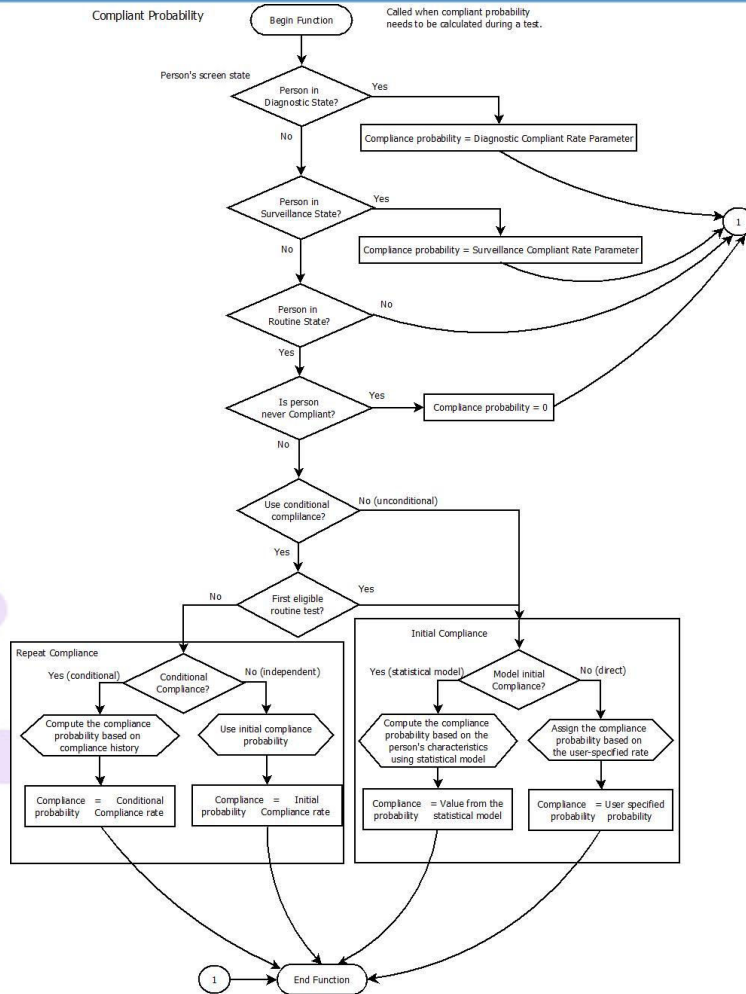
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34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59
35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60
36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61
37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62
38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63
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41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66
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46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71
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67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92
68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93

- Age;
- Sex;
- Race (white, black, Hispanic, other);
- Smoking status (current, former, never);
- Household income (<\$25,000, \$25,000-<\$50,000, ≥\$50,000);
- Insurance status (none, private, Medicare, Medicaid, dual Medicare and Medicaid);
- Education (not complete college, completed college);
- Residential location (zip code).
- State health insurance program participation (SHEP, not a participant, participant)
- Marital status for privately insured individuals (married, unmarried, unknown)

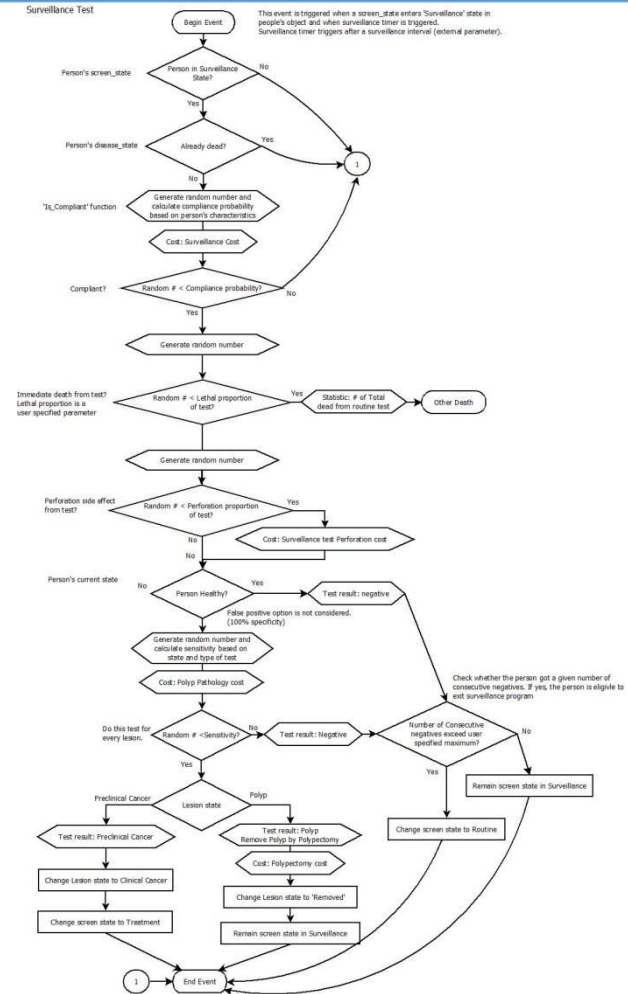
# Process flow of lesion progression



# Compliance process flow



# Testing process flow

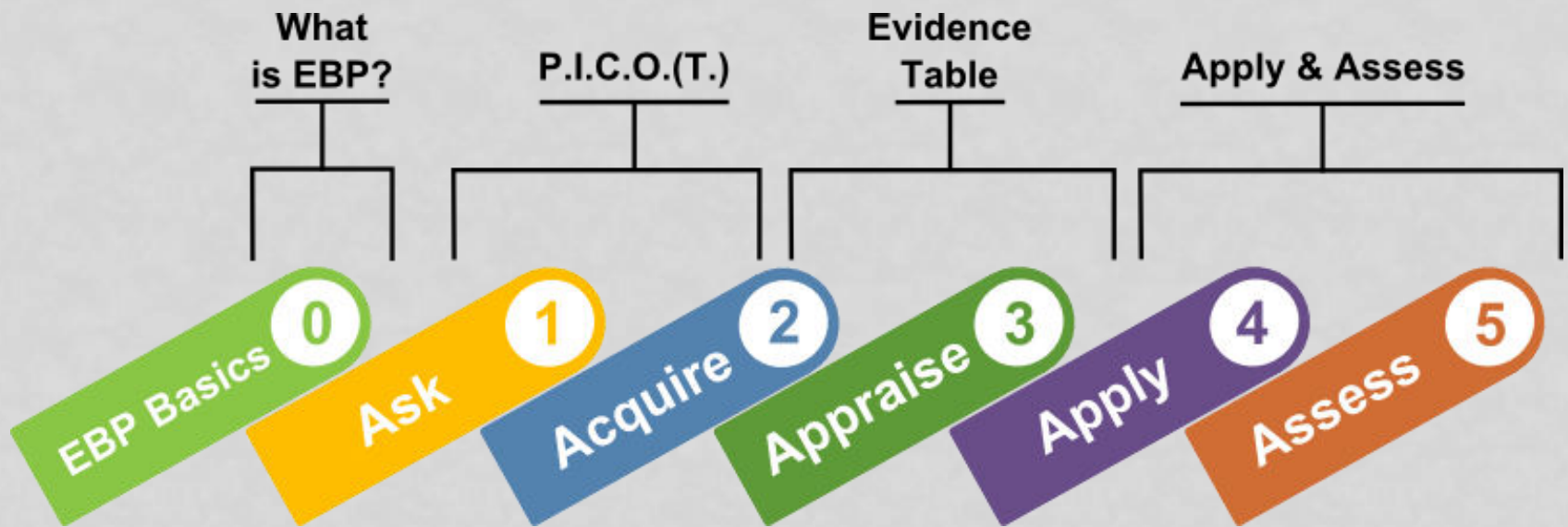


USING INDIVIDUAL-BASED SIMULATION MODELING TO INTEGRATE  
BIG DATA AND INTERVENTION EVIDENCE TO INFORM  
INTERVENTION SELECTION, ADAPTATION, AND EVALUATION:  
AN EXAMPLE ON COLORECTAL CANCER SCREENING

PRESENTED BY: KRISTEN HASSMILLER LICH, PHD MHSA  
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, UNIV OF NORTH CAROLINA AT CHAPEL HILL



HOW DO WE *TYPICALLY* SELECT  
EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICES?



SO... HOW DO WE TYPICALLY SELECT EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICES?

[HTTP://GUIDES.LIBRARY.UWM.EDU/EBPTUTORIAL](http://guides.library.uwm.edu/ebptutorial)





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[HTTPS://WWW.CDC.GOV/PCD/ISSUES/2013/12\\_0275.HTM](https://www.cdc.gov/pcd/issues/2013/12_0275.htm)

# WHAT WORKS

## Cancer Prevention and Control: Cancer Screening

Evidence-Based Interventions for Your Community

### TASK FORCE FINDINGS ON CANCER SCREENING THROUGH 2011

The Community Preventive Services Task Force (Task Force) has released the following findings on what works in public health to increase breast, cervical, and colorectal cancer screening rates. These findings are compiled in The Guide to Community Preventive Services (The Community Guide) and listed in the table below. Use the findings to identify strategies and interventions you could use for your community.

Legend for Task Force Findings: ● Recommended ◆ Insufficient Evidence ▲ Recommended Against (See reverse for detailed descriptions.)

INTERVENTION STRATEGY	TASK FORCE FINDING		
Increasing Breast, Cervical, and Colorectal Cancer Screening			
Client-oriented screening intervention strategies			
Interventions	Breast Cancer	Cervical Cancer	Colorectal Cancer
Client reminders	●	●	●
Client incentives	◆	◆	◆
Small media	●	●	●
Mass media	◆	◆	◆
Group education	●	◆	◆
One-on-one education	●	●	●
Reducing structural barriers	●	◆	●
Reducing client out-of-pocket costs	●	◆	◆
Provider-oriented screening intervention strategies			
Provider assessment & feedback		●	
Provider incentives		◆	
Provider reminder & recall systems		●	
Promoting informed decision making for cancer screening		◆	

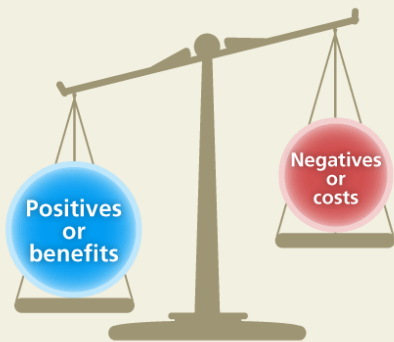
Visit the "Cancer Prevention and Control" page of The Community Guide website at [www.thecommunityguide.org/cancer](http://www.thecommunityguide.org/cancer) to find summaries of Task Force findings and recommendations on cancer screening. Click on each topic area to find results from the systematic reviews, included studies, evidence gaps, and journal publications.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention provides administrative, research, and technical support for the Community Preventive Services Task Force.

Test Name	Study Design	No. of Studies	No. of Participants	Summary of Findings (Includes Consistency, Precision)	Applicability <sup>a</sup>	Limitations (Includes Reporting Bias)	Overall Quality
<b>Key Question 1: Effectiveness of Screening<sup>b</sup></b>							
SIG	RCT	4	458 002	SIG consistently decreased CRC-specific mortality compared with no screening at 11-12 y of follow-up (IRR, 0.73; 95% CI, 0.66-0.82). Mortality benefit was limited to distal CRC.	Fair to poor. No longer widely used in the United States.	Only 1 trial evaluated more than a single round of screening. Variation in referral criteria led to differing rates of follow-up colonoscopy.	Fair to good
gFOBT, Hemoccult II	RCT	5	419 966	Biennial screening with Hemoccult II compared with no screening (404 396) consistently resulted in reduction of CRC-specific mortality (ranging 9%-22% after 2-9 rounds of screening with 11-30 y of follow-up).	Poor. No longer widely used.	Variation in number of screening rounds, use of rehydrated samples, definition of "test positive," and recommended diagnostic follow-up.	Fair to good
<b>Key Question 2: Diagnostic Accuracy of Screening<sup>c</sup></b>							
Colonoscopy	Prospective diagnostic accuracy	4	4821	Comparing colonoscopy with CTC or CTC plus colonoscopy, per-person (or per-lesion) sensitivity for adenomas ≥10 mm was 89%-98%, and per-person sensitivity for adenomas ≥6 mm was 75%-93%.	Fair. Colonoscopies were conducted or supervised by "experienced" specialists.	Studies were not designed to assess diagnostic accuracy to detect cancers. Limited studies with large number of endoscopists that were applicable to community practice.	Fair to good
CTC	Prospective diagnostic accuracy	9	6497	The per-person sensitivity and specificity of CTC using bowel preparation to detect adenomas ≥10 mm ranged 67%-94% and 86%-98%, respectively. The per-person sensitivity and specificity to detect adenomas ≥6 mm ranged 73%-98% and 80%-93%, respectively. In 2 studies, sensitivity without bowel preparation to detect adenomas was lower than that of CTC protocols using bowel preparation.	Fair. Mostly single-center studies, with ≤3 highly trained radiologists. Current practice may use different technologies and protocols.	Studies were not designed to assess diagnostic accuracy to detect cancers. Unclear if the variation of test performance was due to differences in study design, populations, bowel preparation, CTC technology, reader experience, or reading protocols.	Fair to good

## SO... HOW DO WE TYPICALLY SELECT EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICES?

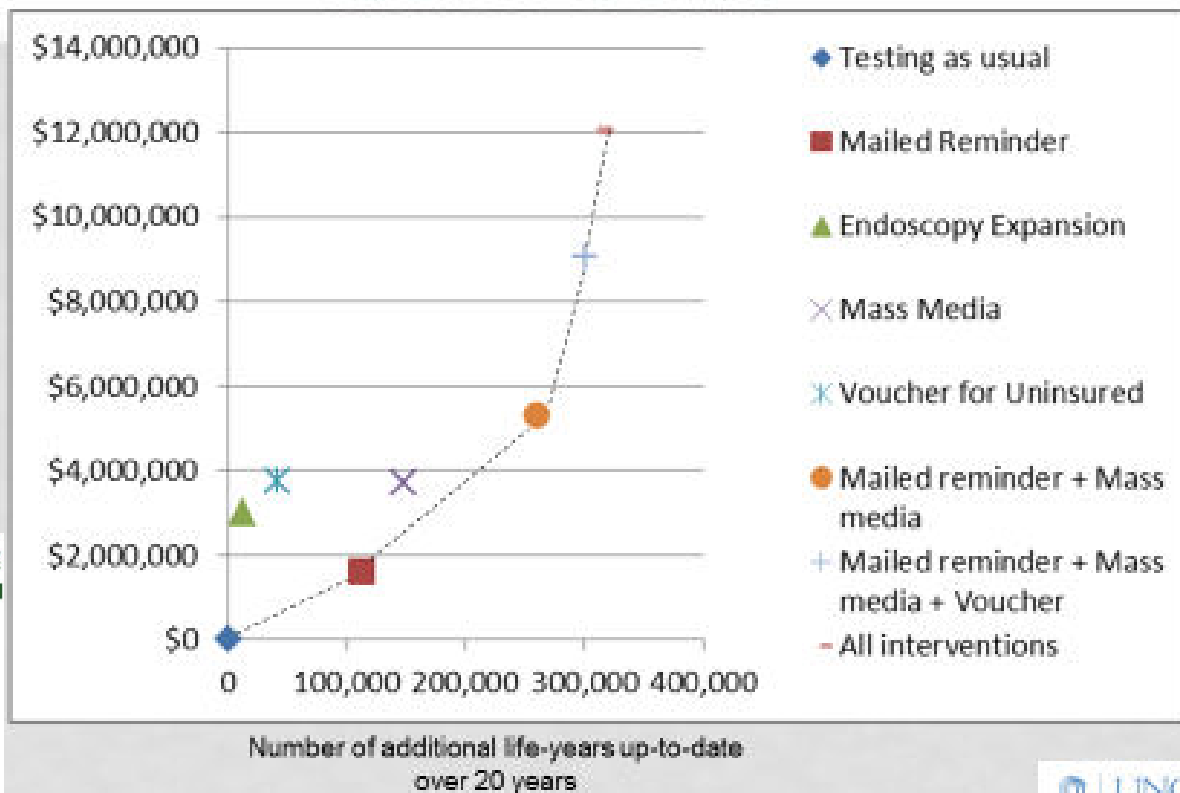
(SOURCE: COMMUNITY GUIDE AND USPSTF REPORTS)



[\(Click for source\)](#)

## COST-EFFECTIVENESS EFFICIENCY FRONTIER: INTERVENTION COST VERSUS ADDITIONAL LIFE- YEARS UP-TO-DATE

Cost of intervention over 10 years



PREVENTING CHRONIC DISEASE  
PUBLIC HEALTH RESEARCH, PRACTICE, AND POLICY  
Volume 14, E18 FEBRUARY 2017

ORIGINAL RESEARCH

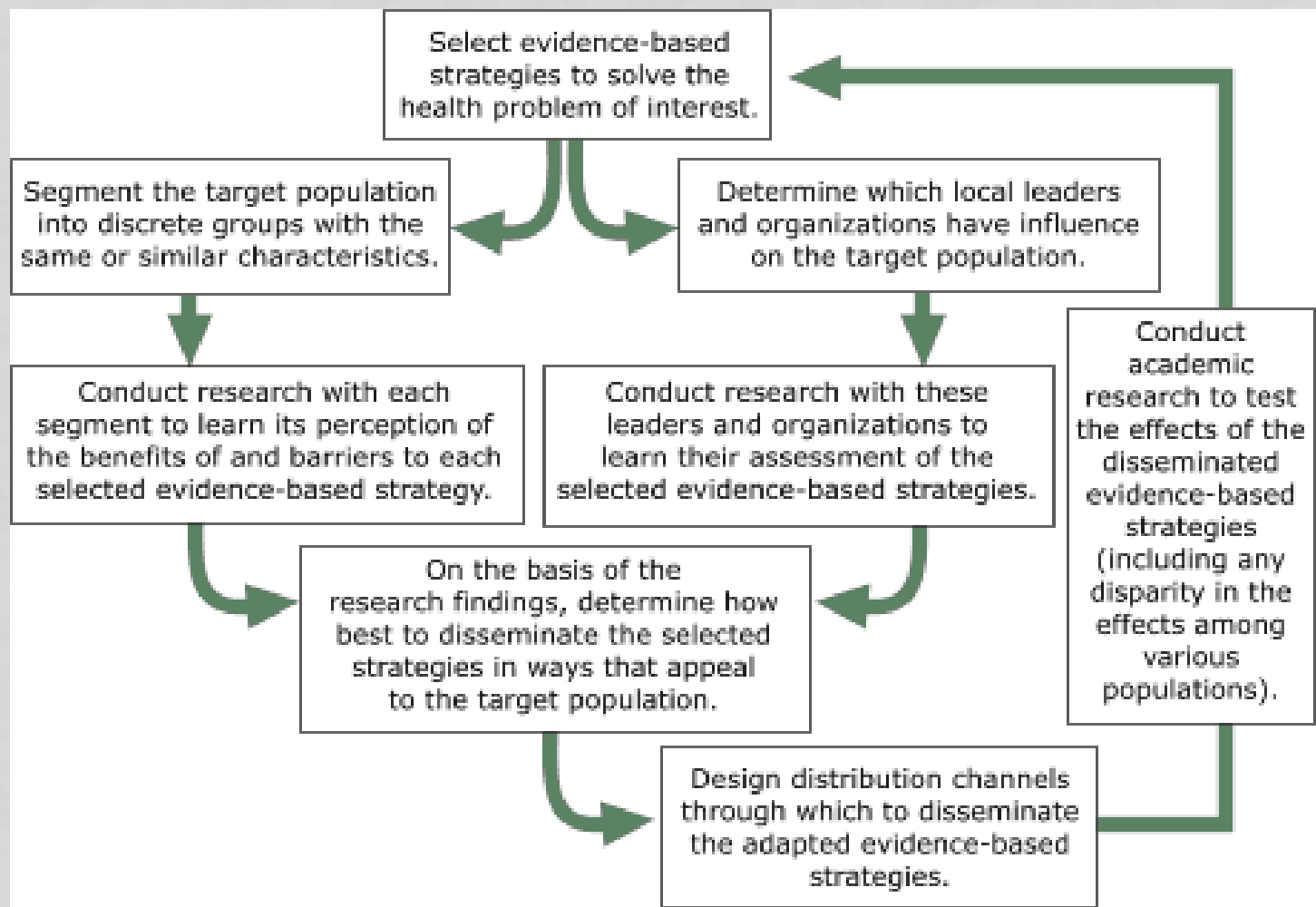
### Cost-Effectiveness Analysis of Four Simulated Colorectal Cancer Screening Interventions, North Carolina

Kristen Hassmiller Lich, PhD<sup>1</sup>; David A. Comejo<sup>2</sup>; Maria E. Mayorga, PhD<sup>2</sup>;  
Michael Pignone, MD, MPH<sup>1,4,5,6</sup>; Florence K.L. Tangka, PhD<sup>7</sup>;  
Lisa C. Richardson, MD, MPH<sup>1</sup>; Tzy-Mey Kuo, PhD, MPH<sup>1</sup>; Anne-Marie Meyer, PhD<sup>3,4</sup>;  
Ingrid J. Hall, PhD, MPH<sup>1</sup>; Judith Lee Smith, PhD<sup>1</sup>; Todd A. Durham, MS<sup>8</sup>;  
Steven A. Chall, MS<sup>9</sup>; Trisha M. Crutchfield, MHA, MSIS<sup>4,6</sup>;  
Stephanie B. Wheeler, PhD, MPH<sup>1,3,4</sup>



SO... HOW DO WE TYPICALLY SELECT EVIDENCE-BASED  
PRACTICES?

REF: HASSMILLER LICH ET AL., PREVENTING CHRONIC DISEASE



SO... HOW DO WE TYPICALLY SELECT EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICES?

[HTTPS://WWW.CDC.GOV/PCD/ISSUES/2007/OCT/07\\_0025.HTM](https://www.cdc.gov/pcd/issues/2007/oct/07_0025.htm)



SO... HOW DO WE TYPICALLY SELECT EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICES?

[HTTP://AZHIN.ORG/CUMMINGS/RE-AIM](http://azhin.org/cummings/re-aim)

HOW COULD WE LEVERAGE  
*SIMULATION?*



## THE PUZZLE OF **LOCAL** DECISION MAKING

ENGAGING DECISION MAKERS WITH SIMULATION CAN HELP!



**www.thecommunityguide.org**

**WHAT WORKS**  
Cancer Prevention and Control: Cancer Screening

*Evidence-Based Interventions for Your Community*

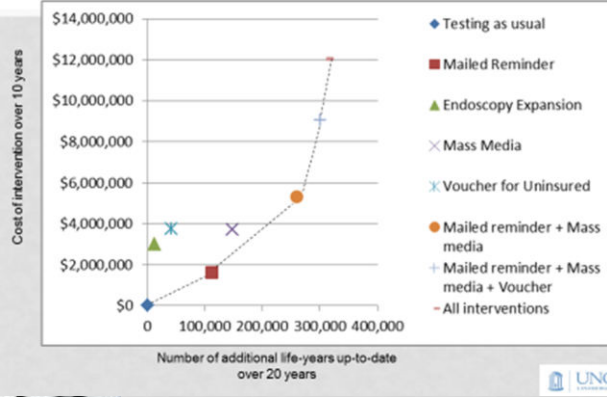
**TAKE FORCE FINDINGS ON CANCER SCREENING THROUGH 2011**

The Community Practice Guide's Take Force Findings identify evidence-based interventions that have the greatest potential to reduce health care costs, improve health, and reduce health care disparities. These findings are provided in The Guide to Community Practice Services (The Community Guide) and listed in this table. Use the findings to identify strategies and interventions that will be most effective for your community.

Intervention Strategy	Best	Good
Screening	●	●
Client education	●	●
Community events	●	●
Direct mail	●	●
Group education	●	●
One-on-one education	●	●
Reducing structural barriers	●	●
Reducing cost of services	●	●

Test Name	Study Design	No. of Studies	No. of Participants	Summary of Findings (Evidence Strength)	Applicability*	Limitations (Include Reporting Bias)	Overall Quality
Key Question 1: Effectiveness of Screening?							
SG	RCT	4	418,902	SG consistently demonstrated a statistically significant benefit in terms of overall mortality and reduction in colorectal cancer mortality. The overall quality of evidence was high.	Fail to cover No longer applicable to the United States.	Only 1 trial evaluated overall mortality. The overall quality of evidence was high.	Fail to meet
Key Question 2: Diagnostic Accuracy of Screening?							
Colorectopy	Prospective	4	4621	Colorectopy is a highly accurate test for colorectal cancer. The overall quality of evidence was high.	Fail. Colorectopy was not evaluated for accuracy in the United States.	Studies were not designed to assess accuracy. Limited number of studies.	Fail to meet
CTC	Prospective	9	6497	The per-person sensitivity and specificity of CTC were 92% and 90%, respectively. The per-person sensitivity and specificity of colonoscopy were 92% and 90%, respectively. The overall quality of evidence was high.	Fail. Study was not designed to assess accuracy. Limited number of studies.	Studies were not designed to assess accuracy. Limited number of studies.	Fail to meet

**COST-EFFECTIVENESS EFFICIENCY FRONTIER: INTERVENTION COST VERSUS ADDITIONAL LIFE-YEARS UP-TO-DATE**



THE PUZZLE OF **LOCAL** DECISION MAKING

ENGAGING DECISION MAKERS WITH SIMULATION CAN HELP!





- Differences in the population targeted can change impact!
  - What if my population is older?
  - More racially diverse?
  - Less likely to *stay* insured?
  - More rural?
- What if our state is doing a great job with a subpopulation already?
  - Medicaid screening rates are high
  - Just had a big colonoscopy initiative
- What if an intervention requires something that isn't in place?
  - Mass media encouraging colonoscopy... *but no access?*
- We address this by:
  - Projecting screening to **the local population** (census data is key)
  - Basing **current screening estimates** on local data (claims, administrative)

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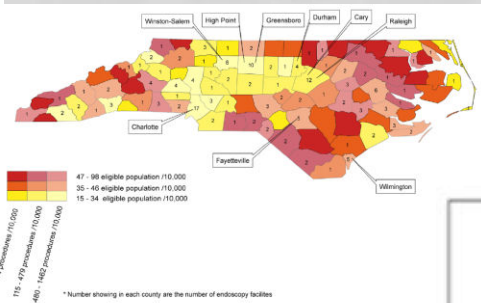
# SIMULATION ALLOWS DECISION MAKERS TO PROJECT CURRENT SCREENING PATTERNS TO THE LOCAL POPULATION

Health & Place  
 Journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/healthplace

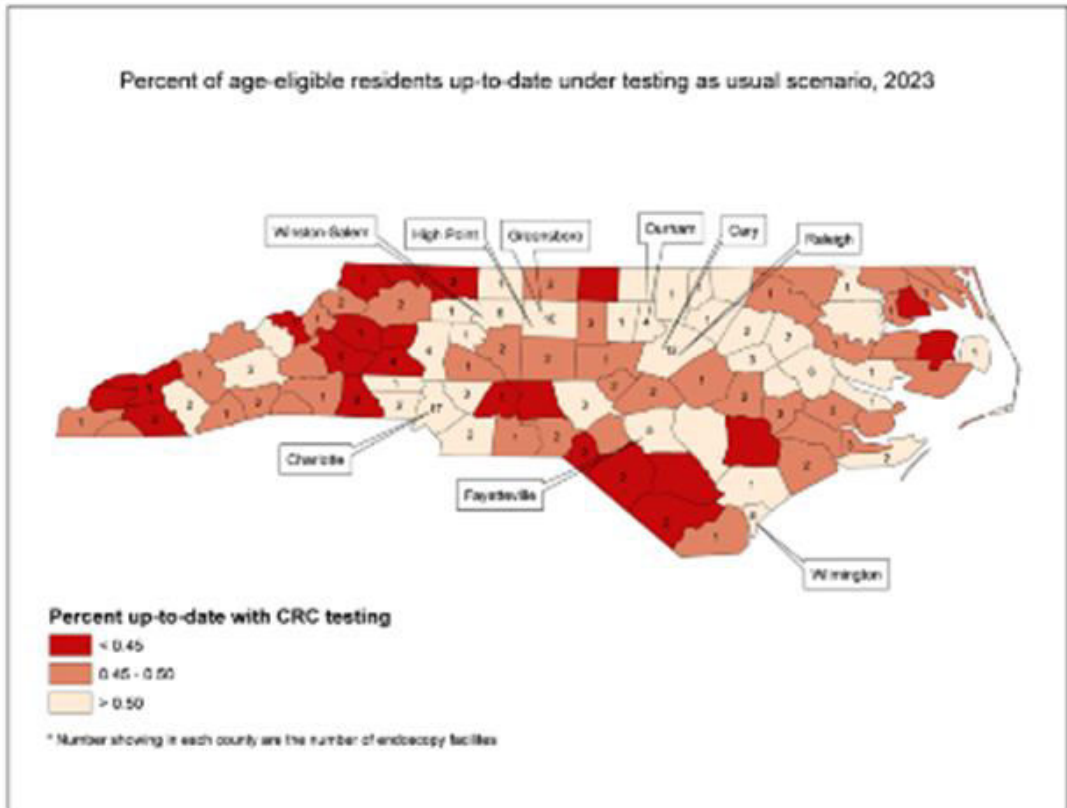
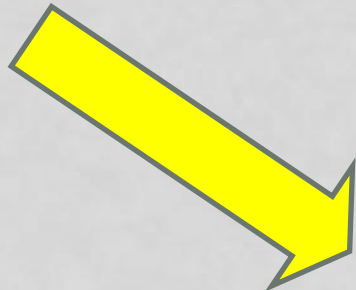
Regional variation in colorectal cancer testing and geographic availability of care in a publicly insured population

Stephanie B. Whelan<sup>a,\*</sup>, Vy-Mei Kuo<sup>a</sup>, Ken K. Coyte<sup>a</sup>, Anne-Marie Meyer<sup>b</sup>, Kristen Rosenfield Loh<sup>c</sup>, Emily B. Gilmer<sup>d</sup>, Seth Traver<sup>e</sup>, Campbell L. Jones<sup>f</sup>, Lisa C. Richardson<sup>g</sup>, Gerald E. Harrold<sup>h</sup>, Huu-Tien Tangka<sup>i</sup>, Michael P. Figgeme<sup>j</sup>

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**Fig. 2.** County-specific location of endoscopy facilities, endoscopy procedural rates, density of Medicare and Medicaid beneficiaries, and Notes: this map was generated by using 2007 data from the State Medical Facilities Plan (SMFP) about the location and endoscopy procedures performed annually per 10,000 residents, where darker shading reflects lower endoscopy procedures performed at the county level. The color of shading (i.e., red, orange, yellow) indicates the density of the 50-year-olds as a function of the general population (per 10,000 residents) living in the county, where red indicates greater density yellow indicates lower density of publicly insured individuals. (For interpretation of the references to color in this figure legend, the reader is referred to the web version of this article.)



# SIMULATION ALLOWS DECISION MAKERS TO PROJECT **CURRENT SCREENING PATTERNS** TO THE LOCAL POPULATION

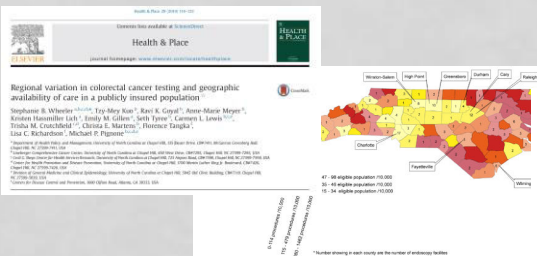
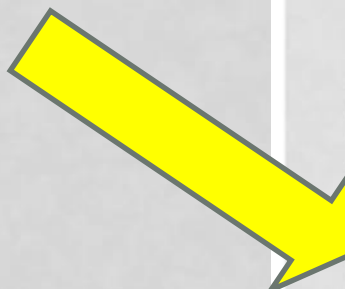


Fig 2. County-specific location of endoscopy facilities, endoscopy procedure rates, density of Medicaid and Medical benefit. Note: this map was generated by using 2007 data from the State Medical Facility Plan (SMFP) about the location and in Carolina. The total number of endoscopy centers in each county is indicated in the corner of each county. County level endoscopy procedures performed annually per 10,000 residents, where darker shading reflects lower endoscopy procedures performed at more endoscopy procedures performed at the county level. The color of shading (i.e., red, orange, yellow) indicates the density (50-year-old) as a function of the general population (per 10,000 residents) living in the county where red indicates greater density and yellow indicates lower density of publicly insured individuals. (For interpretation of the references to color in this figure legend, the reader is referred to the web version of this article.)

## IMPACT ON % UP-TO-DATE IN 10<sup>TH</sup> YEAR OF POLICY WINDOW BASELINE AND % AGE POINT INCREASES FOR EACH INTERVENTION



	Testing as usual	Mailed Reminder	Endoscopy Expansion	Mass Media	Voucher for Uninsured
Overall	53.6%	+0.3%	+0.0%	+0.4%	+0.1%
By sex					
Males	54.7%	+0.3%	+0.0%	+0.6%	+0.2%
Females	52.4%	+0.5%	+0.0%	+0.5%	+0.1%
By race					
Whites	54.7%	+0.3%	+0.0%	+0.4%	+0.1%
Blacks	51.4%	+0.9%	+0.0%	+1.4%	+0.2%
Others	47.5%	+0.5%	+0.0%	+0.4%	+0.4%
By insurance					
Private	56.2%	+0.0%	+0.0%	+0.5%	+0.0%
Medicaid	50.3%	+4.6%	+0.2%	+0.8%	+0.0%
Medicare	51.3%	+0.0%	+0.0%	+0.4%	+0.0%
Dual	44.8%	+3.5%	+0.1%	+0.7%	+0.0%
Uninsured	14.6%	+0.0%	+0.0%	+0.6%	+1.1%



- Challenges:
  - The “system” is big!
  - ... and constantly changing
  - Micro costing is difficult
  - Uncertainty in evidence

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## SYSTEM MAPPING

- Many practical and systematic ways for groups to document current systems
  - **Process flow diagramming** to describe current or proposed practices
  - **Whole system mapping** to document current programs, services, initiatives
  - **Asset mapping** or **system support mapping** to elicit resources, strengths, needs

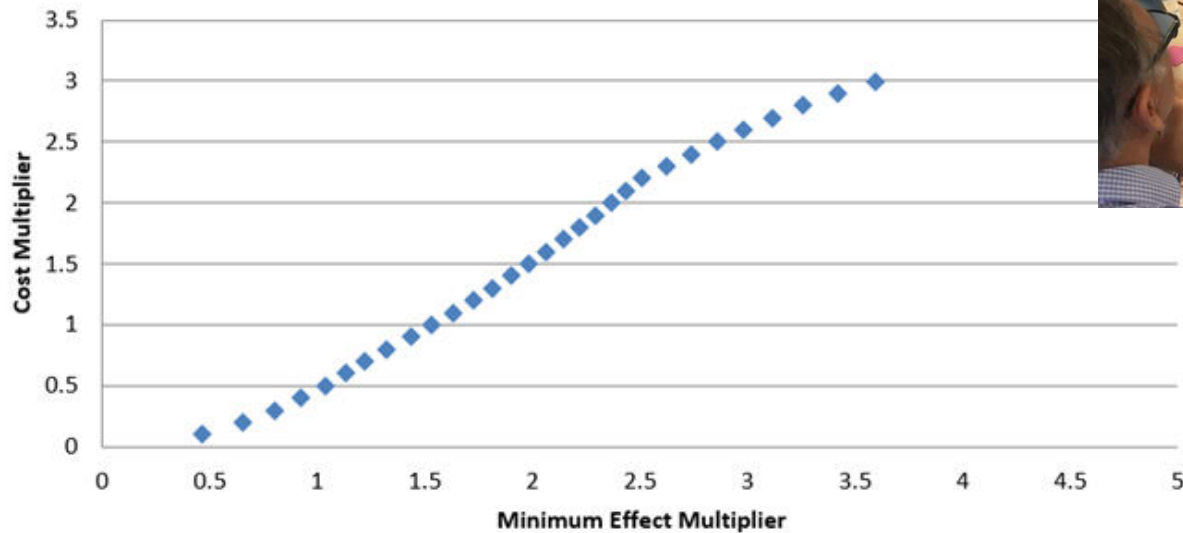


# INSTEAD, WE CAN DISCUSS...

What Combination of Cost Multipliers & Effect Multipliers are fundable for a given willingness to pay level?

Mass Media Intervention Cost \$3,000,000  
Willingness to pay (WTP) **WTP \$10**

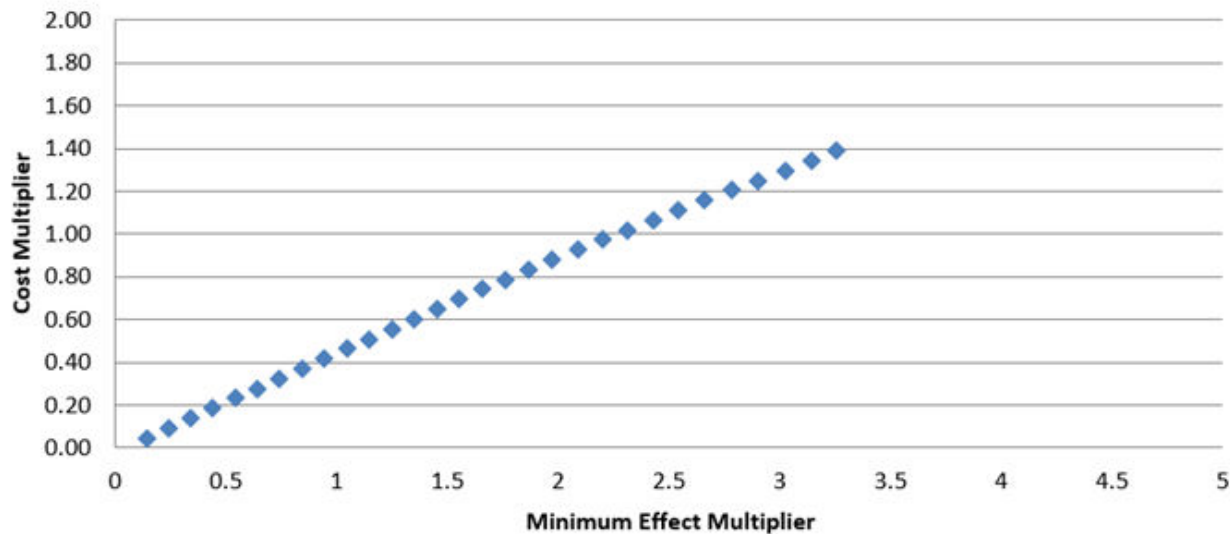
**Mass Media:  
Fundable Cost/Effect Multiplier Combinations  
(below the curve)**



# INSTEAD, WE CAN DISCUSS...

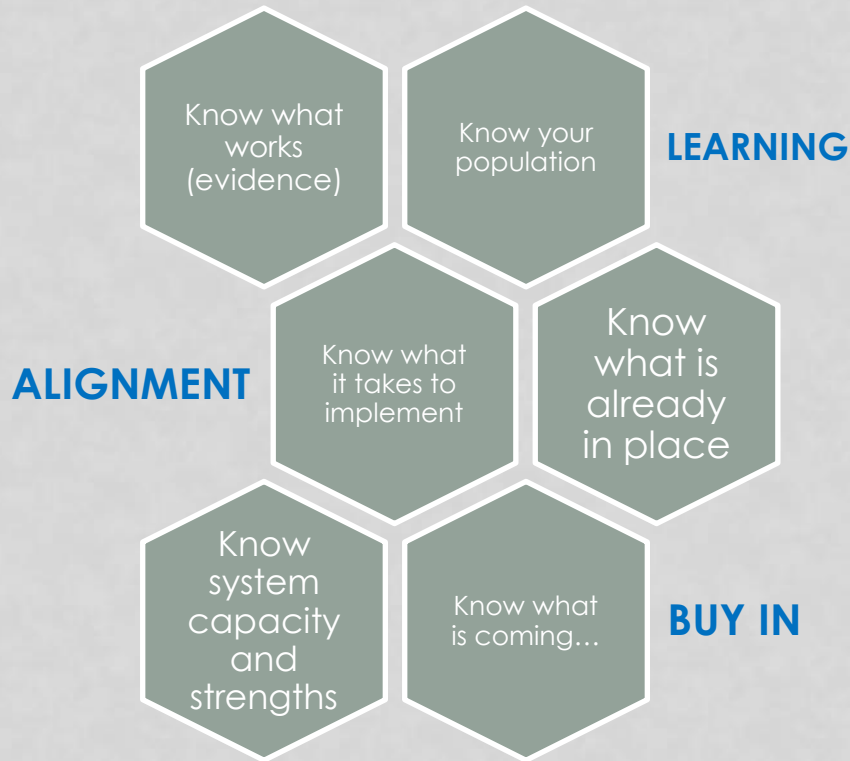
Mailed Reminder Intervention Cost      \$1,619,578  
Willingness to pay (WTP)      **WTP \$10**

**Mailed Reminder:  
Fundable Cost/Effect Multiplier Combinations  
(below the curve)**









## THE PUZZLE OF **LOCAL** DECISION MAKING

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# TARGET AUDIENCES

- State or local public health leaders and policy makers who want to know the benefits and trade-offs of public health interventions
- Organizations responsible for specifying clinical and public health practice guidelines (e.g., the US Preventive Services Task Force, the American Cancer Society, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention);
- State systems such as health plans, accountable care organizations, or coalitions
- Local systems such as healthcare and hospital systems, large employers, Federally Qualified Health Centers, AHEC regions
- Clinician and/or public health researchers
- Patients and patient advocates in the community



**THANK YOU!**

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# Simulation model components & data sources

