

WHAT'S NEW AT DHS?

CARING FOR YOU, CLOSE TO HOME

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SEPTEMBER 2022

2022 HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

We will be closed on the following days:

Good Friday
April 15, 2022

Memorial Day
May 30, 2022

Independence Day
July 4, 2022

Labor Day
September 5, 2022

Thanksgiving
November 24, 2022
November 25, 2022

Christmas Day
Obs. December 26, 2022

New Year's Day
Obs. January 2, 2023

Office Locations:

- Kernersville
- King
- Tanglewood
- Thomasville
- Winston-Salem

Contact our
Appointment
Coordinator:

Stacy (336) 397-5255

ApptCoordinator@digestivehealth.ws



Picking the Right Screening Test

We are sure you have seen the television commercial about Cologuard® as a screening option for colorectal cancer. It seems like a great alternative for patients, as it is noninvasive and has a 92% cancer detection rate. But, there are important factors to consider before offering this option to patients.

So, what is the difference between a Colonoscopy and Cologuard®? During a colonoscopy, the patient is sedated and a gastroenterologist guides a light and camera through the entire length of the colon. The exam looks for any polyps and signs of cancer growth. If polyps are found, the gastroenterologist can

then remove them. This is why colonoscopies can both **detect** and **prevent** colorectal cancer, since polyps can be removed before they become cancerous.

On the other hand, for Cologuard®, a stool sample is collected by the patient and sent to a lab for testing, which looks for blood or DNA markers associated with colorectal cancer. If the patient has a positive test result, which includes a false positive (13%), the patient would then need to undergo a **diagnostic colonoscopy**.

You will find additional information on the differences between these two screening modalities on our blog titled.

Picking the Right Test

You can also request a Zoom presentation with one of our physicians.

PICKING THE RIGHT TEST COLON CANCER SCREENING OPTIONS		
	COLONOSCOPY	COLOGUARD
WHAT IS IT?	During the exam, the patient is sedated and a specially trained doctor guides a light and camera through the entire length of the colon. The exam looks for any polyps and signs of cancer growth.	A stool sample is collected by the patient and sent to a lab for testing, which looks for blood or DNA markers associated with colorectal cancer.
HOW MUCH DOES IT COST?	Varies by insurance. SCREENING TEST must be covered, and is less expensive than DIAGNOSTIC tests.	Varies by insurance. Some plans cover the test, but others do not.
FREQUENCY	Every 10 years, if normal.	Every 3 years, if normal.
WHERE IS IT PERFORMED?	Outpatient surgical center or hospital.	Patient's home.
RISKS OR NEGATIVES	Complications are rare, but include bleeding, infection, and bowel wall injury.	No physical risks. A positive test, which includes a false positive (13% of the time), means that a diagnostic colonoscopy is required. A false negative occurs 8% of the time.
GOOD CANDIDATE	Most people are good candidates. This test is the best way to find and remove polyps early. It is the gold standard for patients with a personal or family history of colon cancer or polyps.	Average risk patient only. Colonoscopy is the recommended screening test at Digestive Health Specialists unless discussed with your gastroenterologist.

Picking the Right Test

GI Resources Available to You

We value the trust you place in us to provide quality GI care for your patients. When you refer to us, you are not just providing a resource to your patients, you are partnering with a medical staff committed to providing the best GI care possible. It is why we have developed tools for referral practices and their coordinators to streamline access to our practice.

First we have our Appointment Coordinator, Stacy Wall, who can help with appointment scheduling, especially if you need to schedule an urgent appointment. Please reach out to her at (336) 397-5255 or by

email at ApptCoordinator@digestivehealth.ws.

On our website, we have a section dedicated to referring physicians and their needs. It contains information specific to our referring practices. You can visit this page at the link below:

[Referring Physicians](#)

If you need additional information about GI-related topics or conditions, consider our physicians as a resource for your practice. They are available to do in-person or Zoom meetings. To request one of these meetings, please visit the following link:

[Provider Appointment Schedule](#)

We pledge to provide your patients with the latest, comprehensive GI care available and promise to support and strive for their well-being as you do. Thank you for allowing us to be part of a network of healthcare providers that our communities can count on.

Digestive

Health Specialists, P.A.

Caring for You, Close to Home.

2025 Frontis Plaza Blvd.
Suite 200 & 210
Winston-Salem, NC 27103

280 Broad St.
Suite F & G
Kernersville, NC 27284

434 Kirby Rd.
King, NC 27021

137 Mt. Calvary Rd.
Suite A
Thomasville, NC 27360

112 Kinderton Blvd.
Suite 100
Advance, NC 27006

Main Phone Line: 336-768-6211

Email: ApptCoordinator@digestivehealth.ws

Access the [Referring Physician's Satisfaction Survey here.](#)

 Colon Cancer Prevention Center

All of our physicians have privileges at: **NH Forsyth Medical Center** • **NH Kernersville Medical Center** • **NH Thomasville Medical Center**

Full-service clinics and ASC licensed and AAAHC approved endoscopy center.

GI services in one place!

On-site Procedures:

- Colonoscopy
- Endoscopy
- Esophageal Dilation
- Flexible Sigmoidoscopy
- Hemorrhoid Removal
- Wireless Capsule Endoscopy

Hospital Procedures

- ERCP
- EUS
- Liver Biopsy
- PEG Feeding Tubes

Our clinics treat the following conditions:

- Acid Reflux
- Anemia
- Barrett's Esophagus
- Celiac Disease
- Colorectal Cancer
- Constipation
- Crohn's Disease
- Diarrhea
- GERD
- GI Bleeding
- Hemorrhoids
- Hepatitis
- Irritable Bowel Syndrome
- Liver Cirrhosis
- Ulcerative Colitis

And More



School Supply Drive Has Ended

We want to express our thanks to everyone who donated to our school supply drive. We were able to collect hundreds of items needed for our local teachers and students, to help them start off the new school year on the right foot.

Thank you again for all of your generosity!

All Digestive Health Specialists locations will be closed on Monday, September 5th in observance of Labor Day.

Career Opportunities at Digestive Health Specialists

If you know of someone who you feel would be a good fit or someone who may have lost their job during the pandemic, please share with them the ["Careers"](#) section of our website. We currently only have clinical positions.



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LinkedIn



YouTube