

Ulcerative Colitis is a chronic disease of the colon or large intestine.

The disease is characterized by inflammation and ulceration of the colon mucosa or innermost lining. Inflammation usually begins in the rectum and lower colon but may also involve the entire colon.

STATS

In your 30s

Most people with ulcerative colitis are diagnosed in their mid-30s, though the disease can occur at any age.

In your 50s & 60s

Men are more likely than women to be diagnosed with ulcerative colitis in their 50s and 60s.

Risk Factors

Ulcerative colitis is more common among whites than non-whites. Jewish people of European descent are also diagnosed at higher rates.

Symptoms

Half of all patients experience mild symptoms consisting of loose stools often containing blood, but more severe symptoms include:

- Cramps or abdominal pain
- Urgency to evacuate bowels
- Loss of appetite
- Weight loss
- Fatigue & nausea
- Fever
- Impaired development in children



When to See a Gastroenterologist



For a Diagnosis

Tests include:

- Stool specimen collection to eliminate the possibility of bacterial, viral or parasitic causes of diarrhea
- Blood tests to check for infection or anemia
- Colonoscopy or sigmoidoscopy



For a Colon Cancer Screening

The risk for colon cancer increases after 8 to 10 years of having ulcerative colitis. Risk factors are based on the amount of the colon that is affected. If only the rectum is affected, the risk is lower; if the whole colon is affected, the risk is higher.



To schedule an appointment: 214-631-7797
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5 Locations to serve you!
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Endoscopy Center at Central Park
Preston Crossing Endoscopy Center
Endoscopy Center at Redbird Square
North Richland Hills Endoscopy Center



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