

Date: February 16th, 2017

UC San Diego Health
UC San Diego Moores Cancer Center

3855 Health Sciences Drive
La Jolla, CA 92093-0901
health.ucsd.edu

Samir Gupta, MD, MSCS

San Diego Veterans Affairs
Healthcare System Associate,
Professor of Clinical Medicine
Division of Gastroenterology,
Department of Internal Medicine
UC San Diego Moores Cancer Center
s1gupta@ucsd.edu

Jesse Nodora, DrPH

Assistant Professor, Department of
Family Medicine and Public Health
UC San Diego Moores Cancer Center

San Diego State University
Institute for Behavioral and
Community Health

Eva M. Arredondo, Ph.D.

Professor, Graduate School of Public
Health at SDSU. Co-Director of the
UCSD-SDSU Joint Doctoral Program in
Public Health. Senior Core
Investigator, Institute for Behavioral
and Community Health

American Cancer Society
California Division

Karina Moyano, MPH

Health Systems Manager, Primary
Care

For more information, please
contact:

Balambal Bharti, PhD

bbharti@ucsd.edu
(858) 822-5351

Giovanna Perez

G8perez@ucsd.edu
(858) 822-6762

Dear Community Partner,

The National Cancer Institute has sponsored a partnership between UC San Diego Moores Cancer Center and San Diego State University to reduce cancer disparities. As part of this work, we have obtained support from the Centers for Disease Control, through the California Department of Public Health to understand barriers to colorectal cancer screening that Federally Qualified Health Centers in San Diego and Imperial County may be facing.

Colorectal cancer screening and timely diagnostic colonoscopy can reduce colorectal cancer incidence and mortality. But one major challenge is ensuring that patients who have an abnormal stool blood test receive timely diagnostic colonoscopy to look for cancer. The follow up is critical because about 1 in 30 individuals with an abnormal stool blood test have cancer.

We are writing to request your help to understand how frequently health center patients across our region with abnormal stool blood test have colonoscopies ordered, and colonoscopies completed.

In partnership with California Department of Public Health and the Centers for Disease Control, we will use this information to develop strategies and resources to help ensure patients across our region get the follow up they need. Only aggregate data, without health center or patient identifiers will be shared publically or with the granting agency.

In the near future, we will be contacting you to gauge your interest in supporting this initiative, which intends to improve the quality of colorectal cancer screening across our region.

For more information, you may also contact Balambal Bharti, Giovanna Perez, or Samir Gupta.





Samir Gupta, MD, MSCS

Eva Arredondo, Ph.D.

Jesse Nodora, DrPH