

FORTE STUDY Newsletter

Kaiser Permanente Northern California

February/March 2025

WHY IS THE FORTE STUDY BEING DONE?

- Colorectal cancer (CRC) is the fourth most common cancer and the second leading cause of cancer death among men and women in the United States (US). The FORTE Study is an evidence-based study that seeks to answer the question: when is the best time to get a follow-up colonoscopy after 1-2 small adenomas are found in a colonoscopy? The results of this study may impact decisions regarding the timing of follow-up colonoscopies, which affect large portions of the population over age 45.

STUDY UPDATES

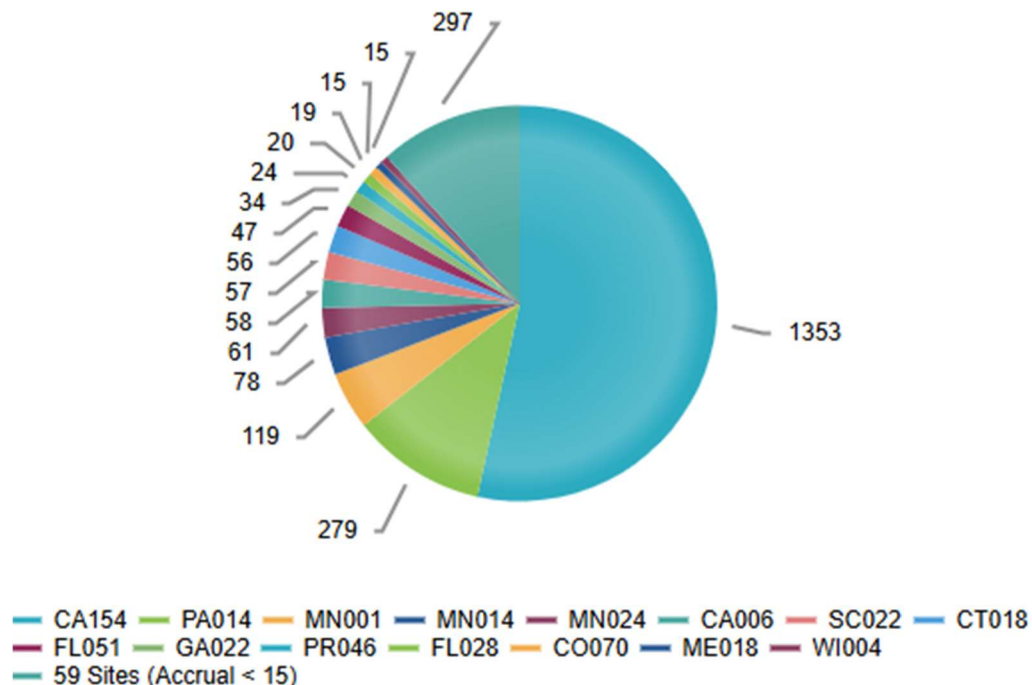
- **Kaiser Permanente Division of Research Moved!**
 - Kaiser Permanente Division of Research moved from Oakland CA to Pleasanton CA in May 2024. Our new mailing address is 4480 Hacienda Drive Pleasanton, CA 94588.
- **Our Study Phone Number Changed!**
 - With our move to Pleasanton came a change in phone numbers. Our new FORTE Study line is (925) 520-1275. If you have any questions or concerns at any point during the study, please don't hesitate to reach out to us! You can also email us at FORTEkpnc@kp.org.
- **Introducing Mobile Phlebotomy**
 - For the study's one-time blood draw (~1 tablespoon of blood), we are using a mobile phlebotomy company that will come to your home to do the blood draw. These mobile phlebotomists are a team of experienced and well-trained professionals. We hope this makes the blood draw easy and convenient.
- **Check out the KPNC FORTE Study's New Website!**
 - Find out more about the FORTE Study at Kaiser Permanente Northern California on our new website at <http://fortestudy.kaiserpermanente.org/>! Our website features more information about the FORTE Study including what study participation includes, frequently asked questions, study staff, and more.
 - FORTE is a national study with over 60 sites across the United States. Here is the national FORTE website for more information about the study nationally: [FORTE \(NRG-CC005\): Colorectal Prevention Study \(nrgoncology.org\)](http://fortestudy.nrgoncology.org)
- **Don't Forget your Stool Kit!**
 - Taking part in the FORTE Study includes completing 3 stool kits over the first 4-5 years of your participation in the study. The first one is sent within the first few months after joining. The second one is mailed 2 years and the third one 4 years after joining.

- **When Do You Complete Your Next Colonoscopy?**
 - Participants in the FORTE Study are randomized into 2 groups after they consent to the study. Participants will either complete their next colonoscopy 5 years AND 10 years after their last colonoscopy OR 10 years after their last colonoscopy. Our study will communicate with your provider to ensure that your next colonoscopy is due at the appropriate time. When it is time for your next colonoscopy, your provider will reach out to you to schedule it. Remember that if you need a colonoscopy for clinical reasons at **any time**, please schedule this with your provider and let us know by emailing or calling us at FORTEkpnc@kp.org or 925-520-1275. You can still stay in the study.

RECRUITMENT PROGRESS (It's kind of our FORTE)

- The FORTE Study is a nationwide study. Kaiser Permanente Northern California is the #1 recruiter. Check out how many people have been recruited!

Figure 1. Participant Recruitment by Site (as of February 20, 2025)



Key: Top recruiting sites

CA154: California KPNC
 PA014: UPMC Presbyterian Hospital
 MN001: Regions Hospital Minnesota
 MN014: Park Nicollet Clinic, St. Louis Park Minnesota
 MN024: Essentia Health Center, Minnesota
 SC022: Ralph H. Johnson Medical Center, South Carolina
 CA006: Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center, UCLA California

STAFF SPOTLIGHT



Meet Dr. Douglas Corley, MD, PhD. Dr. Corley is a Gastroenterologist, the Chief Research Officer at the Permanente Medical Group (TPMG), and the Chief Scientific Officer for the FORTE Study. As the Chief Research Officer at TPMG, Dr. Corley is dedicated to conducting high quality research and integrating this research into clinical care. He has assisted in planning the FORTE Study to eliminate gaps in clinical knowledge and to provide the best possible outcomes for patients receiving colonoscopies.

CONTACT US

Have any questions or concerns?

Please reach out to our study team at FORTEkpnc@kp.org or call (925) 520-1275

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