SGNA Position on Colorectal Cancer Screening and Awareness

In the United States, colorectal cancer is the third most common cancer in men and women and is the second leading cause of cancer deaths. Evidence reflects that the stage of diagnosis of this disease correlates with prognosis; the earlier the diagnosis, the greater chance for five year survival. Recent trends indicate that colorectal cancer deaths are declining. One of the reasons is that polyps and growths found during screening colonoscopies can be removed before they develop into cancer.

Based on the belief that colorectal cancer is preventable, treatable and beatable, SGNA is committed to eradicate this cancer by increasing colorectal cancer screening rates for all people, regardless of socioeconomic status.

In collaboration with government agencies, healthcare organizations, physicians, and supporting partners, SGNA supports participation and contributions of its members in colorectal cancer screening and awareness activities.

SGNA recognizes the importance of ongoing involvement in legislative efforts with a focus on removing barriers to colorectal screening and effective, affordable treatment options.

Healthcare consumers seek out nurses for information about health concerns and navigating the healthcare system. It is known that awareness and education can increase colorectal screening. This is illustrated by a 20.7% increase in screenings over the last 10 years. SGNA encourages its membership to continue the important work of spreading awareness to the public on the necessity of timely colorectal cancer screening.