

*Lecture*

## Colorectal cancer prevention in family practice: a literature review

Ch. Lionis

Colorectal cancer (CRC) is a major public health problem since it accounts for a significant burden of morbidity and mortality in industrialized countries. Prevention of CRC has received growing interest in modern health care systems and the role of family physicians/general practitioners (FPs) has increasingly been discussed in the literature. A systematic review was conducted to identify research that addressed the role and the impact of FPs in colorectal cancer prevention with the aim of making recommendations to policy makers and health planners in health care systems where primary care is less developed. The Medline database was searched via PubMed us-

ing the MeSH approach; "Colorectal Neoplasms/prevention and control" [MeSH terms] AND "Family Practice" [MeSH terms]. All English papers (full text or abstracts) were included. The Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews (2006, Issue 4) (<http://www.cochrane.org/reviews>) was also searched with the aim identify of effective interventions for colorectal prevention with relevance to FPs. Finally, the European Society for Primary Care Gastroenterology (<http://www.espcg.org>) was searched with the aim identifying any documents and recommendations relevant to FPs. This presentation reports the findings of this literature review.

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*Associate Professor of Social and Family Medicine, School of Medicine, University of Crete, Greece*

**Author for correspondence:**

Christos Lionis, Associate Professor of Social and Family Medicine, School of Medicine, University of Crete, Greece, e-mail: [lionis@galinos.med.uoc.gr](mailto:lionis@galinos.med.uoc.gr)