

The analytic framework postulates the pathway leading from interventions engaging community health workers (CHWs) to promote colorectal cancer screening to downstream health outcomes.

Interventions engaging CHWs to increase colorectal cancer screening are delivered to people who are eligible for colorectal cancer screenings. Eligibility is determined based on USPSTF recommendations. These interventions could improve patients' knowledge, attitudes, and skills regarding colorectal cancer screening and improve their understanding of available community resources and social and healthcare services for colorectal cancer screening. CHWs can assist patients to better access available services, improve social support received and quality of care.

Increased demand for and access to colorectal cancer screening services could increase the number of completed or repeat screenings. With appropriate follow-up diagnoses or treatment for positive screening results, this intervention could decrease colorectal cancer incidence and cancer-related morbidity and mortality. Interventions engaging CHWs are typically implemented in underserved communities and could improve health equity.

Some potential effect modifiers include the core roles performed by the CHWs, intervention intensity, number of intervention components implemented by CHWs, and relationship factors between CHWs and patients such as trust.

These interventions could produce additional benefits. Patients could gain access to other healthcare services through their interaction with the CHWs. By implementing these interventions, the CHWs could improve their self-confidence and perceived self-worth.