

Cholesterol Screening

- Cholesterol is a waxy, fat-like substance made in the liver and found in the fats in your blood. The body needs some cholesterol in order to function properly, but too much cholesterol can increase a person's risk of developing heart disease. Having high cholesterol can cause fatty deposits to develop in your blood vessels and eventually these deposits can make it difficult for blood to flow through the arteries. Decreased blood flow to the heart can increase your risk for a heart attack, while decreased blood flow to the brain can increase your risk for a stroke.
- High cholesterol can be caused by factors within your control like obesity, lack of physical activity and an unhealthy diet; or by factors beyond your control like gender, age, and family history. High cholesterol has no symptoms and is only detectible through blood tests.