

## **Malignant Colorectal Cancer in the Rio Grande Valley: A Demographical Study**

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**Background:** There is abundant demographical data available that provides an excellent general statistical overview of colorectal cancer (CRC) within the Hispanic population in South Texas. Much is known about the overarching trends regarding incidence, prevalence, mortality and screening rates among this specific population as compared to other racial and ethnic groups at the state and national levels. Despite our understanding of these broad trends, few studies have taken a step inward to provide a closer demographical analysis of a CRC population here in the Rio Grande Valley. In this study, we narrow the scope and take a closer look at this population to better understand its demographical composition and to identify potential disparities specific to this region that may be overlooked by broader studies.

**Methods:** A retrospective medical chart review was performed on 96 patients with a primary diagnosis of malignant colorectal cancer who received care at the UTHealth RGV Surgery & Women's Specialty Center in Harlingen, Texas between January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020 and February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2021. Data regarding age, gender, race/ethnicity, insurance status, screening usage, comorbid conditions, follow-up rates, cancer stage, tumor location and treatment outcomes were collected.

**Results & Conclusion:** Results for this study are pending due to initial delays in the IRB review process. Data is currently being collected and results will be submitted before the July 27<sup>th</sup> deadline.