Mayo Clinic Minute

Video	Audio
	It's one of the most dreaded parts of turning 50: having to get colonoscopies.
00:06:36 DR. JOHN KISIEL 01: Gastroenterology Mayo Clinic	"We encourage all adults over the age of 50 and even older adults who have at least 10 years of very high quality life expectancy to participate in screening."
	Dr. John Kisiel, a Mayo Clinic gastroenterologist, says you might be surprised how often colonoscopies uncover polyps lurking in your colon.
00:02:54 DR. JOHN KISIEL 01:	"Precancerous polyps are extremely common. We expect to find them in more than a quarter of the colonoscopies that we do at a minimum."
	Dr. Kisiel says even though 1 in 20 Americans will be diagnosed with colorectal cancer in their lifetimes, having polyps does not necessarily mean you will get cancer.
00:03:28 DR. JOHN KISIEL 01:	"Of all the polyps that we see, only a minority will turn into cancer. Removing polyps is thought to be one of the mechanisms by which we can prevent the formation of cancer in the first place."
	That's why regular screening is so important.
	The downside is that if a polyp is found in your colon, you may have to get screened more frequently.
	For the Mayo Clinic News Network, I'm Ian Roth.

What you need to know about polyps in your colon