



## MEMORANDUM

FROM: Shyam Thakkar, MD  
AHN Director of Endoscopy  
Clinical Associate Professor of Medicine Temple University School of Medicine  
Adjunct Assistant Professor, Biomedical Engineering Carnegie Mellon University

DATE: 2/15/2019

RE: "The Old vs. the New: Risk Factors Predicting Early Onset Colorectal Cancer, Quality Improvement Project, Allegheny Health Network, Pittsburgh, PA

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Our project "The Old vs. the New: Risk Factors Predicting Early Onset Colorectal Cancer" conducted at Allegheny Health Network in Pittsburgh, PA was designed as a quality improvement (QI) project. The source of data for this manuscript was obtained from a de-identified, HIPAA and HITECH compliant web-platform database. Any patient identifiers were omitted and blinded from the researchers and readers.

Because of the overall project intent to improve quality, this project was not required to be reviewed by the local Institutional Review Board (IRB) per our institution. The project was discussed verbally with the IRB but as a QI project it did not fall under IRB purview and no official IRB letter was generated.

Signature:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Shyam Thakkar", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Name: Shyam Thakkar, MD

Date: 2/15/2019