

## This Quarter's Stories

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# The Launch of LaboratoryAssist

## What is LaboratoryAssist?

LaboratoryAssist is the newest network under the Assist Health Group umbrella. Launched to assist uninsured patients nationwide with lowered out-of-pocket rates towards the cost of their diagnostic lab work, LaboratoryAssist is bringing affordable diagnostic lab testing to uninsured communities across the country without patients compromising on quality.



## Scheduling with LaboratoryAssist

Through the LaboratoryAssist program, patients in all 50 states have access to scheduling lab work at over 4,000 collaborating facilities. The program collaborates with major labs, such as Quest Diagnostic, LabCorp, CPL Labs and many more.

Patients have access to scheduling for thousands of lab tests through the program, including specialized testing and genetic testing. LaboratoryAssist offers over 100 tests for under \$7, making it an extremely cost effective option for self-pay patients.

## Preparing for the Launch

Throughout this quarter, the Assist Health Group team has been hard at work preparing for the launch of our newest program offering. The website for LaboratoryAssist is now live and ready for patient inquiries. The team is thrilled to provide this offering to self-pay patients nationwide and we can't wait to see the program grow!

# Colorectal Cancer Screening During COVID-19

## The Importance of Colorectal Cancer Screening

During the pandemic, colorectal cancer screening should not have to wait. Colorectal cancer is one of the leading causes of cancer related deaths, but can be prevented with routine screenings. All adults aged 45 and older are recommended to begin screening and should continue routine screening until the age of 75.

## How COVID-19 Affected Screening

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, patients nationwide found difficulty in scheduling colonoscopies when elective procedures were put on hold in most states. The scheduling pause earlier this year caused delays and cancellations in potentially life-saving colonoscopies.

Not only were elective procedures put on hold, but many patients found themselves unwilling to complete procedures or in-person medical visits at this time, turning to telemedicine and at-home alternatives for care.



Alondra with our FIT kits.

## At-Home Screening Options

At-home methods to screening, like fecal immunochemical tests (FIT), became a perfect option for patients to stay current with routine screenings during the pandemic and are a tier 1 screening method recommended by the CDC. Not only are at-home screening methods safe, easy and recommended, but they are extremely cost effective as well.



Anahy and Roxana attending the Colon Cancer Coalition's webinar.

## Making Screenings Easier

Assist Health Group started as ColonoscopyAssist, a program for uninsured patients to gain access to affordable colorectal cancer screening. Assist Health Group is still focused on bringing accessible screening to communities nationwide, which is why it is important for us to offer options for patients to get screened comfortably and affordably at home.

Both the FIT test and Cologuard are available as at-home, non-invasive options for colorectal cancer screening through our program and both options can be ordered by patients in all 50 states.

## How Our Team is Staying Informed

To learn more about adapting to changes in healthcare and colorectal cancer screening recommendations during the pandemic, our team attended a webinar by the Colon Cancer Coalition in collaboration with Baylor College of Medicine Dan L. Duncan Comprehensive Cancer Center and the Community Cancer Education at Baylor. The Assist Health Group team is continuing to stay informed about screening during the pandemic.

# Our Team is Growing

## Introducing Our New Team Members

Throughout 2020, Assist Health Group has put an emphasis on expanding our team to fit our growing program and patient needs. This quarter, we have introduced four new members into our team. Alex Alonso has joined the Assist Health Group team as the team's operations manager, while Alexandra Glick, Marnita Carroll and Annalisa Lopez have come on board as patient navigators to assist patients with their scheduling needs.

With the addition of Alex, Alexandra, Martina and Annalisa to our team, we are able to expand our program to reach more patients across the nation in need of affordable care. We are elated that even throughout the pandemic, we have been able to add new members to our team and are continuing to build the program.



Operations manager, Alex.



Program director, Ali, with our BBB plaque.

## Assist Health Group Becomes BBB Accredited

### Excited to Become Accredited

We are pleased to announce that Assist Health Group became an accredited business by the Better Business Bureau this quarter! Our program was founded to serve as a trusted and reliable resource in providing access to medical care for uninsured communities nationwide, so we take pride in our BBB accreditation.

### What's Next for Assist Health Group?

Although we have worked to build new standards in the healthcare industry for over a decade, Assist Health Group is still developing our program to provide accessibility and pricing transparency to self-pay patients across the country. We hope to soon bring our network of programs to patients throughout all 50 states.

## Feedback From Our Patients

This quarter, we received some insight on our ColonoscopyAssist program from Jerry Marbles. See why Jerry decided to utilize ColonoscopyAssist for his procedure.

### Why was ColonoscopyAssist a good fit for your procedure?

"I have a family history of colon cancer and I began with a FIT test, which came back positive. Since I do not have health insurance, I started to research more affordable options for a colonoscopy and came across ColonoscopyAssist. After reading through some reviews, I was convinced that this was the way to go."

### What were the other options available to you other than ColonoscopyAssist and why did you ultimately choose the program?

"Local hospitals would have been my only other option, but the pricing there was twice or even three times more for the same procedure and I am not able to afford that. The price was the clincher!"

### If the program did not exist, do you think things would be different for you?

"If this program had not been available, I'm really not sure what I would have done. I probably would have had to take out a loan just to get the colonoscopy."

### How was your experience with the providers?

"I could not have asked for a better experience! The doctor that performed my colonoscopy was amazing and very friendly. It was like I had known him for years after only meeting him briefly. The entire staff at the location was amazing from start to finish and my 6 hour trip was well worth it."

### Any words to the physicians considering to participate in ColonoscopyAssist?

"If anyone has doubts about being a provider for such an amazing program, they need to take the plunge. The service that is offered with ColonoscopyAssist is unbelievable and the rewards to you will be ten-fold. This is a vital service to those like me that do not have insurance, because insurance is not affordable for everyone."

### Any words to our readers on the fence about getting screened?

"Believe me, I was not very willing at first to go through with the procedure. The prep instructions were very easy to follow and worked well, and most people say that's the worst part! The entire procedure itself was over within an hour and I felt great afterwards. I also received the results right after the procedure was completed, so there was no worrisome waiting period. The peace of mind is well worth it alone and everything was a breeze."

***"The peace of mind is well worth it."***  
- Jerry Marbles