**Presentation Abstract**

**Presentation Title**
Are We Failing Our Patients?
Why Colorectal Cancer is Increasing in Taiwan Despite Greater Awareness

**Presentation Time**
Sunday, December 14, 2014, 16:10 ~ 16:25

**Location**
Windsor Hotels, Taichung, B1 International Lecture Hall

**Presenter**
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**Abstract Body**

**Introduction:**
Colorectal Cancer (CRC) has been the most common incident cancer since 2006. Over 50% of the cases are diagnosed at late-stage. Too many Taiwanese men and women are dying from colorectal cancer (CRC). It does not have to be.

**Background:**
CRC is preventable if detected at the pre-cancerous stage. In Taiwan the majority of cases are still found late-stage as current screening methods simply are not enough.

**Results:**
Surveying the medical literature reveals poor adherence in Taiwan to current CRC detection strategies. Additionally, poor compliance to monitoring of CRC recurrence play a significant role in the increased morbidity and mortality associated with this disease.

**Clinical focus should be on strategies that are able to identify pre-cancer or cancer at earlier stages when it is preventable or curable. Strategies should be non-invasive, simple and convenient for patients such as routine blood draws since many patients are not compliant with current methods especially those that require a bowel prep or utilize stool based testing.**

What is needed is a novel test that can side step ineffective screening paradigms and identify pre-cancer or early stage disease missed by conventional methods.

**Conclusions:**
We believe we have identified a novel testing strategy which will substantially increase compliance and will help monitor and detect CRC patients more effectively.

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Dr. Tsai is a clinician and medical-researcher focused on new oncology biomarkers for better management of cancer. He has served as a member of the Surgical Society, ROC and the Society of Colon and Rectal Surgeons, ROC. In addition to his clinical duties at CGMH, Dr. Tsai has conducted research in circulating tumor cell technologies and profiled pathologically relevant genetic signatures in colorectal cancer. He received his M.D. from the Medical College at National Yang-Ming University and his Ph.D from the University of Tokyo, Japan. Dr. Tsai is the author of numerous peer reviewed publications on onco-biomarkers in colorectal cancer.