

Bowel Cancer Screening Training Day Webinar

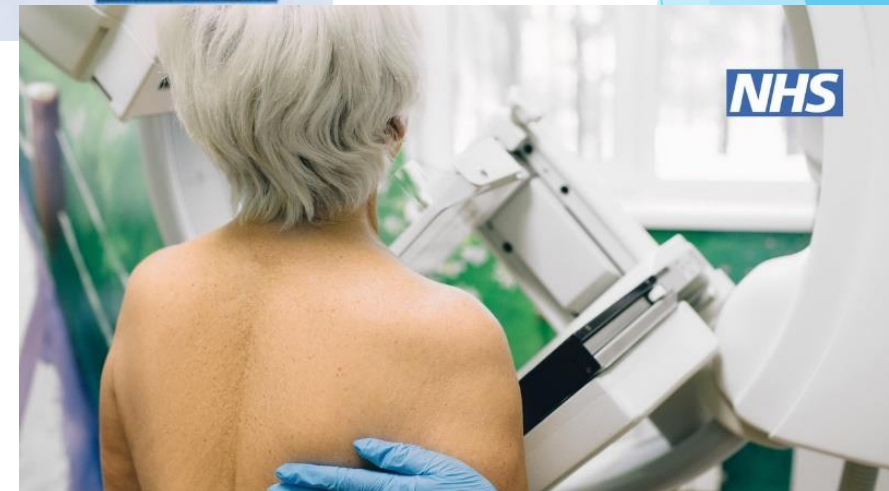
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Ahmed Abdo— bowel screening

UK Cancer screening programmes

- Bowel screening programme
- Breast screening programme
- Cervical screening programme



What is cancer screening?

Cancer screening is a test that looks for early signs of cancer in people without symptoms;

- Helps people to get early treatment
- Higher chance of survival
- FREE service provided by the NHS
- Need to be registered with a UK GP

Bowel Cancer Statistics:

**Bowel cancer is the
fourth most common
cancer in the UK**

4th

**Bowel cancer is the
2nd most common
cause of cancer
death in England after
lung cancer**

Signs & Symptoms



Bleeding from your bottom
and/or blood in your poo



A persistent and unexplained
change in bowel habit



Unexplained weight loss



Extreme tiredness for
no obvious reason



A pain or lump in your tummy

These symptoms don't necessarily mean that you have bowel cancer. But if you have any of these symptoms for 3 weeks or more, your GP wants to know!

The importance of Early Detection and why Cancer Screening is so important

- Diagnosing cancer early **saves lives** with a patient's 5-year survival improving the earlier their cancer is diagnosed at (Stage 1 and 2)
- Screening tests **can help find cancer at an early stage, before symptoms appear.**
- When abnormal tissue or cancer is found early, it may be easier to treat or cure. By the time symptoms appear, the cancer may have grown and spread. This can make the cancer harder to treat or cure.
- Screening can find non-cancerous polyps that may develop into cancer

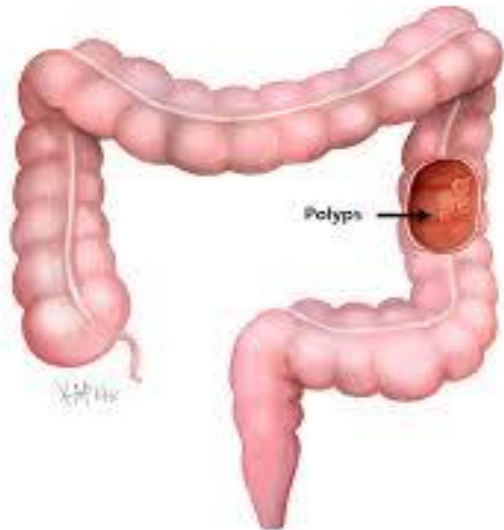
What is a Polyp



What is a polyp? A polyp is a fleshy growth on the inside of the bowel. Some people may develop just a single polyp, while others can have two or more at a time.

Polyps are benign - a growth that is not cancerous but they are important because some of them eventually become cancerous.

Most doctors think that all bowel cancers develop from polyps.



Bowel Cancer Screening - Faecal Immunochemical Test (FIT) Detecting traces of human blood in stool sample.

Screening:

- Offered to everyone aged 52 – 74 years every 2 years with an aim to roll out from 50 years of age by 2025
- People aged over 74 can request a kit by calling Free phone helpline: **0800 707 60 60**



FIT Kit:

- Quick and easy home testing kit
- Just one small sample of poo
- Complete in privacy at home
- Arrives automatically in the post every two years
- detects tiny amounts of 'hidden' blood in bowel motions.



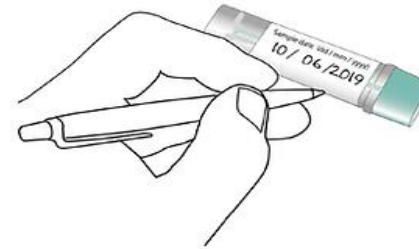
HOW to complete a FIT KiT for Bowel Screening

[Bowel cancer screening kit: how to use - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk)

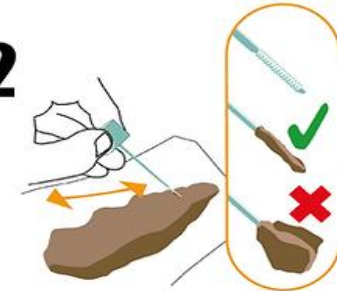
Instructions on how to use the home test kit provided by the NHS Bowel Cancer Screening Programme & available in 11 languages.

FIT INSTRUCTIONS VISUAL GUIDE

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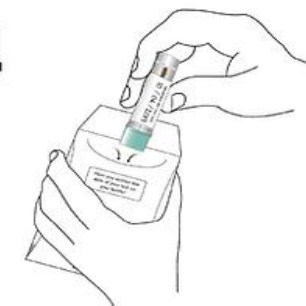
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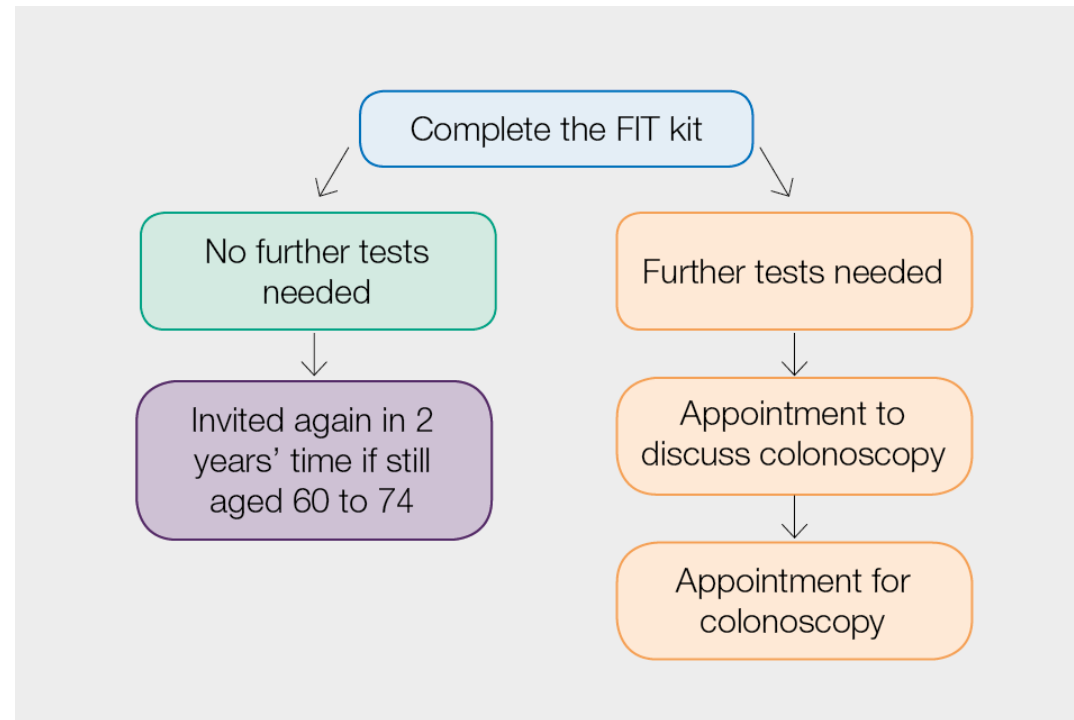
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HOW the screening programme works



If colonoscopy appointment is DNA'd. 2nd appointment is booked.

If DNA 2nd appt. Episode closed, GP informed and repeat kit will be sent in 2 years time

FIT for screening VS FIT diagnostic

Screening:

- For **people aged 52 – 74 years** every 2 years. People aged over 74 can request a kit
- The threshold for determining a positive result is set at **120µg** Hb/g faeces
- **Screening hub sends kit** to eligible individuals by post
- Patient completes the test and returns kit by post **to the screening hub**
- Screening hub sends results to patients by post. GPs are informed of all results electronically. Patients can order replacement screening kit by calling the Bowel Screening Hub

Primary care:

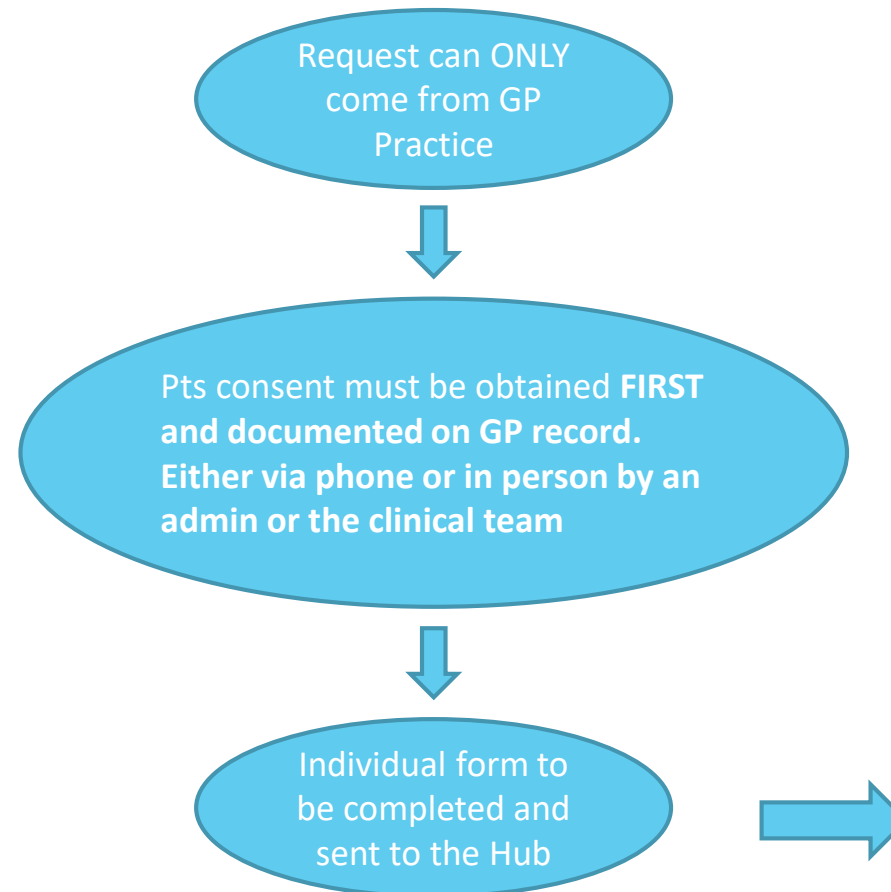
- For **people who present symptomatically**
- The threshold for determining a positive result is lower (normally **10µg** Hb/g faeces)
- Kit is **given out by GP or sent** to the patient **by the lab** on GP's request
- Patient completes and returns kit **to GP practice or nominated lab**
- GP given a result which may include a numerical value and GP communicates it to patient

If a patient's screening result is negative and they develop symptoms, they should be offered a symptomatic FIT by their GP

Bowel Screening Pathway – Primary Care

Week	Action
0	Invited/letter sent to patient
2	kit sent
3	kit analysed (within 2 weeks of kit analysed - apt must be booked)
4/5	SSP booked and seen (within 2 weeks
Non - responders	
6	reminder letter
9/10	SMS service
13	episode closes
Spoilt Result	
Kits completed incorrectly	Auto letter to pt that its completed incorrectly and another kit will be sent.

Re-requesting a FIT KIT on behalf of patient - Will take 4 weeks to reach them



Patients can also request a kit by calling the hub
0800 707 60 60



LPHADMF1- 3rd
Party Kit Request Fo

Target Group

- Males
- Ethnic minorities
 - South Asian
 - Black African and Caribbean
 - Polish
 - Arabic
- Homeless Community
- Learning disabilities
- LGBT+ Community

Males are less likely to take up bowel screening than females

Barriers to Bowel Screening

- Don't know what to expect
- Embarrassment, uncomfortable or unpleasant
- Fear
- Family and friend's influence
- Past experiences -
- Negative experiences in healthcare system
- Lack of trust
- Language barriers
- Disabilities; physical, emotional, mental
- Cultural
- Religious
- Practical Barriers (**don't want to miss work**)
- Denial of outcome

Hammersmith & Fulham Performance (Uptake rate)

	2022/2023	2023-2024	2024-2025
	H & F	H & F	H & F
Q1	54.27%	52.17%	51.67%
Q2	52.54%	51.01%	45.89%
Q3	54.10%	51.66%	
Q4	53.14%	48.01%	

Making the Bowel Cancer Screening Program for Everyone



Phone Call Script: No Response to Bowel Cancer Screening Invite

Introduction:

“Hello, is this [Patient’s Name]? My name is [Your Name], and I’m calling from [Your GP Practice/PCN/Health Service]. How are you today?”

Purpose:

“I’m reaching out because we noticed that you received an invite for the bowel cancer screening, but we haven’t had a response yet. I just wanted to check in and see if you’ve had a chance to look over the information and if there’s anything we can do to help with the process.”

Addressing Concerns: If the patient hasn’t seen the invite:

“No worries! I can explain a little bit about it. Bowel cancer screening is really important as it helps detect early signs of bowel cancer, even when there are no symptoms. Would you like me to arrange for another test kit to be sent out?”

If the patient has concerns:

“I completely understand. Many people have questions or worries about the process. Is there anything specific that’s been holding you back from completing the screening? I’d be happy to answer any questions you have.”

Encouraging Participation:

“The test is simple and can be done at home. It only takes a few minutes, and it could make a big difference in your health by catching any issues early on.”

Offering Assistance:

“If you would like, I can walk you through how to do the test or help you arrange the return of the kit. If you prefer, I can also resend the kit to you.”

Follow-Up:

“We’re here to support you every step of the way. Once you’ve completed the test, feel free to reach out if you have any questions or concerns. Is it okay if we follow up in a few weeks if we haven’t received the test results?”

Closing:

“Thank you so much for your time, [Patient’s Name]. We really appreciate your attention to this, and we’re here if you need any further assistance. Take care!”

Resources and Support for Patients

Video and interactive resources:

- [Using bowel screening kit with subtitles in multiple languages video | PHE screening](#)
- [NHS Bowel Screening video](#)
- [How to do the FIT bowel cancer screening test | CRUK](#)
- [Bowel Cancer Screening for people with learning disabilities – Barnet Mencap](#)

Printable resources and guides:

- [Resources - Healthy London Partnership](#)
- [Bowel Screening information leaflets | Gov UK](#)
- [Easy Guide to Bowel Screening | Gov UK](#)
- [Bowel cancer screening | NHS UK](#)
- [Screening information for transgender patients | NHS UK](#)
- How to do a FIT bowel cancer screening kit | cancer research UK | <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=il6VSceMWfM>

Bowel cancer screening
info leaflets collection



Bowel cancer screening:
helping you decide

