

FAST FACTS FIT for Clinicians



Recommended Course Faecal Immunochemical Test

Get Started



EXAMINATION

Patients should be referred on a colorectal suspected cancer pathway without FIT if they have an anal or rectal mass or anal ulceration. It is vital that all patients are examined, including via DRE.



SAFETY NETTING

Consider formal safety netting processes to ensure samples are returned and results are acted on.





A small percentage of patients with a negative FIT will have colorectal cancer and FIT does not exclude other cancers. Ensure patients are given clear safety netting instructions and consider referring patients with persistent symptoms.





TEST

A FIT kit should be requested in all patients with symptoms of colorectal cancer (except anal or rectal mass, or anal ulceration), including those with rectal bleeding. A referral should be made if the test is positive $(usually \ge 10 \mu g Hb/g).$

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SAMPLES

Patients may worry about the practicalities of collecting a sample. Take time to talk them through what to do.

Remember



Remind your patients which container to use and how to label the sample correctly.

SCREENING THRESHOLDS

The FIT symptomatic threshold is much lower than the FIT screening threshold. GPs should always offer eligible symptomatic patients a FIT symptomatic kit, even if they recently had a negative screening result.

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