

How will the process of FIT testing work in practice?

Delivery of FIT kits to Practices: you will receive the new FIT test kits from your local Pathology Lab in the usual way that you receive blood test bottles etc. Additional stock - at the agreed restock level - should be ordered via your local Pathology Lab as per your usual process.*

The FIT kits include:

- the FIT sample collection kit
- a pre-paid envelope for the patient to return the sample
- a patient instruction leaflet

* **Please note:** the kits have a **12 month expiry date** so please manage and rotate stock appropriately so that expiry date is not exceeded.



The Process:

- Patient presents with symptoms and meets the criteria for a FIT test. The ICE prompt on the criteria is: "Does this FIT request comply with NICE 2015 Suspected Cancer Guidelines? i.e. offer FIT testing to assess for colorectal cancer in people without rectal bleeding who are:
 - Aged ≥ 50 y and have abdominal pain or weight loss.
 - Aged < 60 y and have change in bowel habit or iron deficiency anaemia.
 - Aged ≥ 60 y and have anaemia - even in absence of iron deficiency"
- GP orders FIT on ICE (*search the term 'FIT'*), prints the ICE label and places it **vertically and straight** on one of the **flat sides of the FIT sample container**.
- Ensure that the ICE request form (except Sheffield Practices) is put in the pre-paid envelope so STH Pathology Lab knows where the sample has come from.
- Read code the FIT request on EMIS or SystmOne (for audit purposes):
EMIS = 47K 'Quantitative faecal immunochemical test'
SystmOne = Xaf0H 'Quantitative faecal immunochemical test' i.e. Xaf0(zero)H
- The patient takes the FIT kit including the sample container, request form and prepaid envelope, collects their sample and returns the kit **in the post to STH Pathology Lab** using the prepaid envelope. Emphasise that the patient should: only use the kit provided, leave the request form in the envelope, date the sample and return it at their earliest opportunity.

Accessing FIT test results:

- For **Sheffield Practices**, results will be available on ICE in the normal way.
- For **non-Sheffield Practices**, STH Pathology Lab has set up a generic code per Practice so results will be sent to the generic inbox at each Practice. **Please ensure that you check this generic inbox to access the results.**

Test results will be shown as a number displayed next to the FIT reference range:

- A **positive** result will show with the comment: "Please refer 2WW colorectal."
- A **negative** result will show with the comment: "Colorectal cancer is very unlikely in patients with low risk symptoms and no rectal mass. Suggest assurance and safety netting to seek advice if symptoms don't settle."

If you have any further queries, please contact the Cancer Lead at your CCG. For further information on the process and to read the latest FAQs, please access the Cancer Alliance Website: <https://bit.ly/lower-gi>
FIT for Symptomatic Process Instructions 16.04.19