

Faecal Immunochemical Test (FIT)

Background

▼ [About faecal immunochemical test \(FIT\)](#)

About faecal immunochemical test (FIT)

FIT is a more sensitive and specific method of detecting human haemoglobin than traditional chemical methods.

Positive results are found at the following thresholds:

- 10 microgram Hb/g of faeces in symptomatic patients.
- Public Health Wales use a higher threshold for asymptomatic patients for bowel screening. Therefore, use a FIT test for suspected lower GI cancer symptoms, even if they have had a recent normal bowel screening result.

For further information, see Public Health Wales – [CAV Symptomatic FIT Pilot](#).

Public

1. Check the ▼ [criteria](#).

Criteria

All adults with suspected lower GI cancer symptoms, including rectal bleeding.

2. Prepare the ▼ [required information](#).

Required information

- Confirm patient contact details, including mobile number
- Include medications
- Reason for request
- History and co-morbidities
- Body mass index (BMI)
- Examination findings
- Investigations carried out, and results

- Options already pursued
- Other important information
- Practice W code

3. Order a FIT pack for the patient via [Public Health Wales](#) (PHW) – use the Read code 4791.

4. Inform the patient:

- A FIT pack will be sent directly to their home address by the laboratory. The pack will include the label with the patient's information and all the instructions.
- They must return the completed kit directly to the laboratory, using the addressed envelope provided with the kit, at any Royal Mail post box.
- The laboratory will not contact the patient or the general practitioner if samples are not received. The general practitioner will need to follow up these results.

Information

 [For health professionals](#)

Further information

- British Society of Gastroenterology and Association of Coloproctology of Great Britain and Ireland – [Faecal Immunochemical Testing in Patients with Signs or Symptoms of Suspected Colorectal Cancer](#)
- Cancer Research UK – [Key Things to Know About FIT](#)
- Cardiff and Vale University Health Board – [FIT Implementation Strategy for Primary Care in CAV](#)

SEND FEEDBACK

SOURCES

PAGE INFORMATION

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