

BROADCAST MESSAGES

EFFEC. DATE (CCYYMMDD):2018-01-01

CANCEL DATE (CCYYMMDD): 2018-01-15 **TARGET TYPE:** AI

TARGET KEY: MD **COPY MESSAGE FROM**

BROADCAST TITLE: Fecal Occult Blood Testing Resumes

BROADCAST MESSAGE (UP TO 5 PAGES, 12 LINES PER PAGE, 76 CHARACTERS PER LINE):

Fecal Occult Blood Testing (FIT), part of the early screening process for colon cancer, has resumed following a temporary suspension.

Testing was suspended in October 2017 after a manufacturer problem was identified with the liquid solution, also known as a reagent, used to test the FIT samples.

FIT is a routine screening test recommended for men and women between the ages of 50 and 74 and is designed for people who are considered at average risk of colon cancer. It detects blood in the stool, which can be an early sign of colon cancer. Patients with abnormal test results are referred for a follow-up colonoscopy.

Laboratory providers worked closely with the manufacturer to resolve the quality control concerns with the reagent. New batches of reagent have been approved for use following an extensive testing and quality assurance process. Laboratory providers have also set up additional quality checks to monitor test performance to prevent similar problems in the future. The Colon Screening Program along with laboratory providers and health authority partners have a coordinated plan to notify patients about the resumption of testing, first addressing those patients for whom testing was delayed.

What this means for you and your patients:

- Patients with existing FIT requisitions can bring their requisition to the laboratory to receive their FIT kit.
- Patients who could not pick up a FIT kit or those who submitted a FIT sample but did not receive a result due to the FIT suspension may be contacted by their laboratory provider. Each laboratory will determine the most appropriate approach for contacting their patients. Most laboratories are considering giving notice with instructions to patients by mail or telephone.

- Every effort will be made to contact patients. If not contacted by the end of January 2018, patients will need to return to their health care provider to obtain a requisition for a FIT kit.

INITIATED BY: MoH

Copy to BCMA yes

AUTHORIZED BY _____

IF TARGET TYPE IS

THEN TARGET KEY IS

PY-PAYEES -----	PAYEE NO.
PR- PRACTITIONER -----	PRACTITIONER NO.
SP-SPECIALTY -----	SPECIALTY CODE
AI-ASSOCIATION IDENTIFIER -----	MD – BC MEDICAL ASSOCIATION
A -ALL -----	LEAVE TARGET KEY BLANK
PS-PAYEE STATUS -----	C - VESTED INTEREST LAB
	F PRIMARY CARE
	H - HOSPITAL
	I - INACTIVE PAYEE
	L - LABORATORY
	M - ACTIVE PAYEE
	V - 3RD PARTY- OUT OF PROVINCE
	Y – ALTERNATIVE PAYMENTS PROGRAM