

Faecal Immunochemical Test (FIT) – Primary Care roll out

Uptake of the service

The service went live on the 1st October 2019 for GPs in the Scarborough and Ryedale CCG and on the 16th October 2019 for GPs in the Vale of York CCG.

As of the 11th November 2019 there have been results for 212 patients. This includes 62 requests for FIT for patients over 60 (29%).

There have been an additional 138 requests which have contained errors.

Sample Errors

Several errors have been identified with samples. These include:

- 16 instances of FIT pickers being returned to the lab separately from FCAL samples (either without form or with a duplicate/re-printed copy of the form).
- 80 instances of FIT and calprotectin being requested but no FIT picker being received.
- 29 instances of FIT and calprotectin being requested but no blue/brown pot being received.
- A number of FIT pickers returned to lab without ICE or paper request form.
- A small number of green bags being labelled but FIT pickers are unlabelled.

Raised results

From the samples which have been resulted there have been 44 raised results:

- 21 patients with a raised FCAL only.
- 17 patients with a raised FIT only (7 of which have been for patients over 60)
- 6 patients with both a raised FCAL and raised FIT

Research

Consent forms have been received for 108 patients out of the 212 patients (51%).

Frequently Asked Questions

Q. How do I order more collection packs?

A. Contact your local lab to order more collection packs. The pathology consumables order form can be completed and returned via fax or e-mail. For more details see: <https://www.yorkhospitals.nhs.uk/our-services/a-z-of-services/lab-med/general-information/information-for-health-care-professionals1/ordering-consumables/>

Q. How do I order FIT on ICE in patients under 60yrs of age?

A. In patients under 60yrs, FIT can only be ordered as part of ordering a Faecal Calprotectin test. Requesting the Calprotectin test on ICE should automatically reflex a FIT test in patients under 60yr or age.

Q. Do I need to send a request form for the FIT test?

A. Yes - you will need to generate an ICE or paper pathology request form which should be returned to the laboratory together with the FIT pack (and faecal calprotectin sample if requested).

Q. What instructions on sample collection do I need to give to patients when providing a FIT test?

A. Instructions on sample collection for FIT are provided within the collection pack. Patients should be asked to return the sample to the surgery promptly together with any faecal calprotectin sample they have been asked to collect.

Q. How long does it take to get results back?

A. FIT results are usually available within 1 week of the sample being returned to the laboratory.

Q. Who can I contact if I have questions about FIT?

A. Questions about collection packs, turnaround time, results should be directed to your local laboratory or the Duty Biochemist (01904 72 6366) in the first instance. Questions about the research aspects should be directed to 01904 725459 or FAST.TRACK@york.nhs.uk.