qFIT TESTING FOR OCCULT BLOOD IN STOOL

Quick reference guide

**Consider qFIT testing in patients who:**

* are aged 50 or over with unexplained abdominal pain or weight loss or
* are aged 50 to 60 with changes in their bowel habit or iron-deficiency anaemia or
* are aged 60 or over and have anaemia without iron deficiency.

**Administering the test**

Keep your tests in a single location in the practice.

Retrieve a test pack.

Remove the request form from the pack, complete it making sure you tick at least one of the indication boxes, and return it to the pack.

Give the pack to the patient and advise them to read the instructions carefully before they send the pack to the lab in the envelope provided.

Record that you have issued the pack using the read code 4791 on your clinical system.

Expect a result within 7 days of the patient sending it away; it may be worth setting up a recall system to identify outstanding results.

**What the results mean**

**If qFIT positive: consider referral for suspected colorectal cancer.**

**If qFIT negative: colorectal cancer is extremely unlikely.**

**What to do next**

qFIT has a very high negative predictive value for colorectal cancer *in low-risk populations*.

If your patient still has symptoms of concern on reassessment, you may wish to consider seeking local specialist advice. Consider reviewing NG12, the NICE guideline on the recognition and referral of suspected cancer, to assist your reassessment if you remain concerned.