

Key things to know about FIT

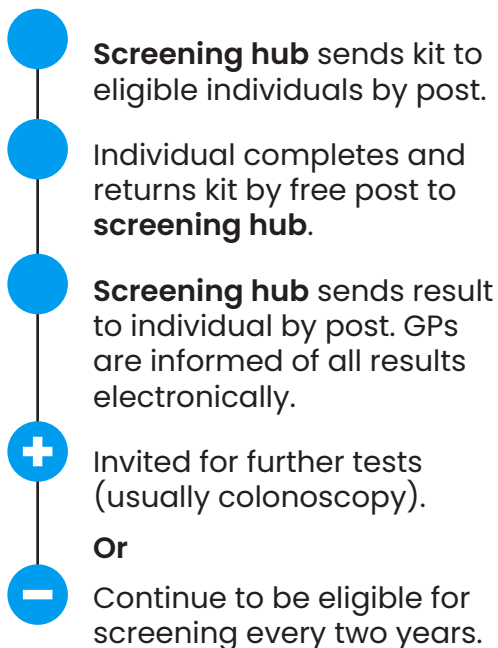
in England

The Faecal Immunochemical Test (FIT) is a type of faecal occult blood test used to detect traces of human blood in stool samples. It is being used in screening and in primary and secondary care.

Together we are
beating cancer

Screening pathway

- FIT is the primary test in the NHS Bowel Cancer Screening Programme (BCSP).
- It is for people aged 50–74 years [1] every 2 years. People aged over 74 can request a kit [2].
- The threshold for determining a positive result is set at 120µg Hb/g faeces.

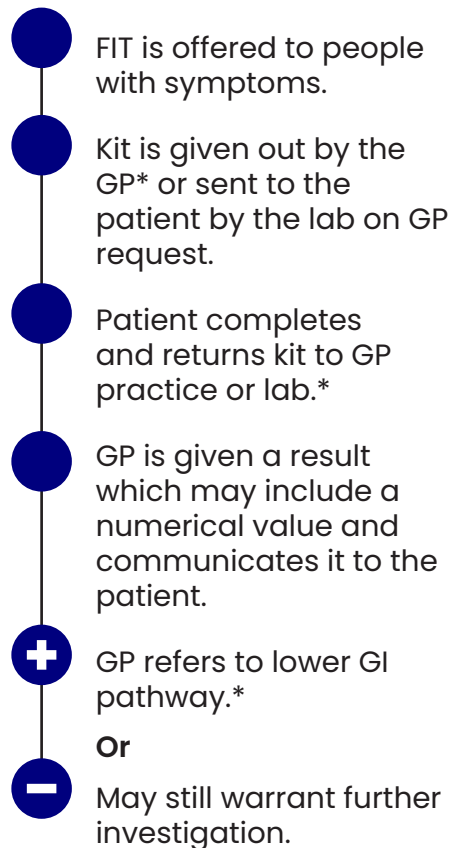


If a patient develops symptoms at any stage they should contact their GP practice for further assessment regardless of screening results.

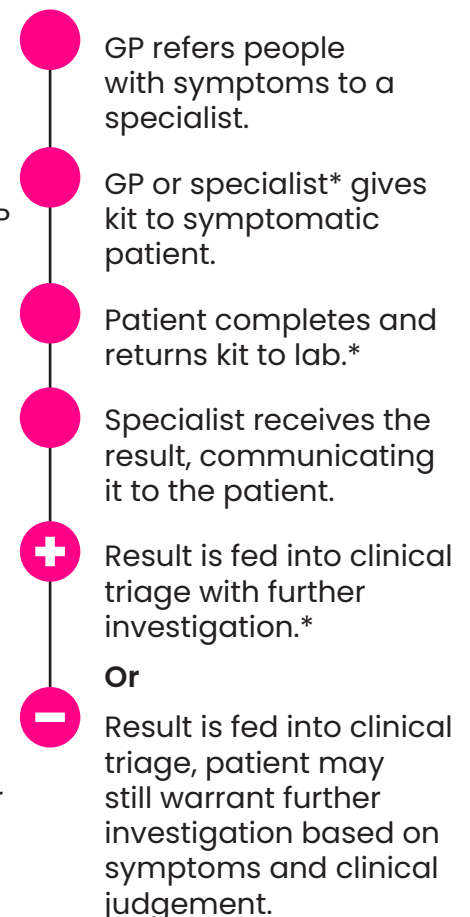
Symptomatic pathway

- FIT is primarily used to guide the management of patients in primary care.*
- FIT may also be used in secondary care for triage and/or when a FIT is not completed in primary care.*
- It is for people who present symptomatically.*
- The threshold for determining a positive result is lower than BCSP (normally 10µg Hb/g faeces).

Primary care investigation



Triage in secondary care



*Check locally what processes are in place to request additional kits.



Patients shouldn't be discharged based on a negative FIT result alone. Make sure to safety net patient until symptoms are explained or resolved.

For further information visit cruk.org/bowelscreeninghub and cruk.org/FITsymptomatic

[1] People aged 50 are gradually being invited using a phased approach, due to be completed in 2025.

[2] Contact the bowel cancer screening helpline on 0800 707 6060.