	Colon Cancer Screening Guide and Frequently Asked Questions	STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE
		Policy Ref: N/A
Enacted: 1/2016	Owner: Quality Improvement	Revision Date: 5/2020

Colon Cancer Screening Guide and Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Patients 50-74 should be screened for Colorectal Cancer through one of the following available methods. Screening method is selected based on patient's medical and family history.

Screening by FIT or Cologuard is encouraged first, unless patient medical or family history indicates otherwise.

Test Name	Test Results	Frequency (if negative)	Screening Location	Method of Return
FIT	Blood	Annually	Home	Return to clinic
Cologuard	Blood & DNA	Every 3 Years	Home	Mail to Cologuard
Colonoscopy	Direct visualization/lesion removal	Every 10 years	Outpatient	N/A

Outreach Workflow

- Review chart and consult with provider to determine which test is appropriate.
- Call patient to discuss screening options. *See talking points below.*
- Order test selected.
- Review completion and return processes with patient. *See below for details on specific test.*


Outreach Talking Points

- Our records show you are due for Colon Cancer Screening.
- We now have two at home testing options for you (caller has reviewed history and deemed appropriate for patient)
 - Cologuard: the company mails the test directly to your home and you return it in the mail to the testing lab.
 - FIT: we mail you a test and you return it to the clinic. *Inform patient of returning FIT per your clinic workflows.*

Sample MyChart Message: ODCRCSCREENREMINDERMC [943235]

Our records show that you are due for a colon cancer screening. We have a few different options for this now. Please call the clinic to discuss with your care team which option would be the best.

Thanks,
Your Care Team

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FIT or Cologuard Patient Eligibility Criteria

- Patient is 50+ years of age
- Patient is not high risk
- Patient does not have a personal history of colon cancer, polyps or other related conditions (adenomas, IBD or Crohn's).
- Patient does not have a family history of colon cancer
- Patient has not had a positive result for another colon cancer screening method in the last 6 months.

Screening by FIT - Ordering FIT Tests

Care Teams should distribute FIT tests to patients during in person visits OR mail directly to patients during outreach phone calls. Order FIT per clinic workflows and mail to patient.


Open Door mails monthly, bulk ordered FIT kits to patients centrally from Population Health. Patients are asked to complete their test at home and return the test to **ANY** Open Door Clinic.

Contact Martha Carneal at ext. 5156 with general FIT ordering questions.

1. Verify patient eligibility (see above).
2. Place future order for FIT.
3. Obtain FIT kit from clinic lab.
4. Prepare FIT Kit.
5. Mail to patient (Cost of postage \$3.80. Cost of postage subject to change, verify rate prior to sending)
6. FIT results from Labcorps.

Screening by Cologuard - Ordering Cologuard Tests

1. Verify patient eligibility (see above).
2. Call patient and, if patient agrees, complete form and fax to Cologuard.
3. Places order for Cologuard:
 - a. Code LV5046
 - b. Class changed to external interface-outside collection
 - c. Changes to Future, SPECIMAN SOURCE
 - d. Type change to STOOL
 - e. Diagnosis Code: Z12.11
4. Cologuard will get approval from the patient's insurance before sending to them.
5. Send completed order form to be scanned.
6. Patient mails completed kit back to Cologuard.

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7. Cologuard results received by Medical Records via fax.

Colon Cancer Screening FAQs Screening by FIT or Cologuard

Why should I get tested?

Humboldt and Del Norte have some of the highest rates of invasive colon cancer in California.

Facts about Colon Cancer:

- 90% of colon cancers that are found early can be treated
- Screening can find evidence of cancer before you have symptoms
- Colon cancer can occur in people who have no family history.

How common is colon cancer?

Colon cancer is very common, the second leading cause of cancer death, but one of the most preventable if found early through regular screening tests and follow –up care.

I have heard about several tests, which one should I do?

There are different kinds of screenings for colorectal cancer. The test that is best for you is determined based on your personal medical and family history. We recommend the FIT test or Cologuard because it is simple, can be done in your home, covered by all insurance and you don't need to do any preparation or miss work. The FIT kit is covered by our sliding fee scale. If you prefer a colonoscopy, I will let [PROVIDER NAME] know.

What will the test show?

We hope the test will show us that your colon is healthy but the test helps us find any hidden blood or DNA in your poop.

- FIT tests look for blood in your poop. Hidden blood can be a sign of colon disease.
- Cologuard tests look for altered DNA and/or blood in your poop that can be associated with colon cancer or pre-cancer.


Do I have to pay for the test?

Except for very few exceptions, all insurance companies are required to pay for preventative care such as this with no copayment or deductible. FIT kits are covered by Open Door's Sliding Fee Scale but Cologuard is not. If you do not have coverage, please contact our Member Services department to help you enroll in coverage you are eligible for based on your income.

Member Services Department Telephone: (707) 269-7073 Ext: 3432

I do not want to do the test.

Being screened is your choice, but your provider recommends you be screened annually.

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Cologuard Shipping FAQs (Per Cologuard Website)

What comes in the test kit? Where will I get it?

After our lab receives the completed order from your healthcare provider, we will send the Collection Kit to the address provided. We may need to contact you ahead of shipment if any information is missing. Once you receive the Collection Kit, it will include instructions for collecting a sample, a prepaid return shipping label, and Exact Sciences Laboratories phone number, in case you have any additional questions.

Can Cologuard be taken in my healthcare provider's office?

We deliver the collection kit to your home address, so you can collect a sample privately and easily. If you prefer to collect your sample at your healthcare provider's office, please contact him or her to see if he or she can accommodate your request.

What if I don't have a permanent address?

We need an address where you can receive the kit, but it doesn't need to be your permanent address.

Can Cologuard be mailed to a PO Box?

Yes. Although we would prefer to ship a kit to your physical address, we can send your kit via UPS to your PO Box if that is where you normally receive packages. Please note you will still need to contact UPS to schedule a pickup or drop your sample off at a UPS location, once you have collected your sample.

How should I send the collection kit back to the lab?

The Collection Kit (with the sample inside) should be mailed back to our lab via UPS, using the original box and prepaid and pre-addressed return label that we provide. You can drop off the kit at any UPS store or shipping location, or you can call 1-800-PICKUPS to schedule a pick-up at your home. Please note that the sample must be shipped within 24 hours of collection, and received by our lab within 72 hours of collection. We recommend shipping it Monday through Thursday for this reason.

If I schedule a UPS pick-up, do I need to be home at that time?

No, you do not need to be at home at the pick-up time if you leave the shipping box in an easy-to-see location, such as near the front door. Please note that the sample must be shipped within 24 hours of collection, and received by our lab within 72 hours of collection. We recommend shipping it Monday through Thursday for this reason.

For additional FAQ's visit: <https://www.cologuardtest.com/faq>