



PARTICIPANT SCREENING PATHWAY

The National Bowel Cancer Screening Program identifies target population between 50 - 74 years old (from Medicare data)

You will receive a **pre-invitation letter** to participate. If you have, or develop symptoms, have a family history of bowel disease, or have other health problems that may make screening inappropriate^B, talk to your GP. The **home test kit**^C is sent 4 weeks later.

You can choose to **Opt out**^A permanently or **Defer** temporarily at any time.

If you do not respond, we will send you a reminder letter in 8 weeks and if we still do not hear from you, **an invitation will be sent in 2 years.**

You complete the home test kit and Participant Details Form and send directly to pathology laboratory via Return Reply Paid envelope provided.

If the sample you sent was unable to be tested we will send you a new kit.

If your result is **negative** there is nothing to do. You will be sent a new home test kit in 2 years.

You and your GP^D will be sent the results of your test.

Reminder letter

If you have not seen your GP to discuss your positive result after **8 weeks**, we will send you and your GP a reminder letter.

If you have not seen your GP to discuss your positive result after **26 weeks**, we will send you and your GP a reminder letter.

Reminder call

If you have not seen your GP after **12 weeks**, a Program Representative^E may call you or your GP to follow-up.

If you have not seen your GP after **30 weeks**, a Program Representative may call you or your GP to follow-up.

If your result is **positive**, you should talk to your GP within two weeks.

Your GP may decide not to refer you for colonoscopy for a variety of reasons.

They will inform the Program what you have discussed and if you have decided to:

- **Opt out** permanently; or
- **Defer** temporarily.

Your GP will ask you about symptoms and family health history and suggest next steps.

Your GP may refer you for further tests (e.g. colonoscopy) and will notify the Program.

If we have no record from your GP visit, we will send you another test kit in 2 years.

Reminder letter

If no colonoscopy reported at **8 weeks** from GP referral, the Program sends you and your GP a letter.

If no colonoscopy reported at **16 weeks** from GP referral, the Program sends you and your GP a letter.

Reminder call

If no colonoscopy reported at **12 weeks**, the Program Representative may call you or your GP.

If no colonoscopy reported at **20 weeks**, the Program Representative may call you or your GP.

Colonoscopy

Negative colonoscopy (no abnormalities detected)

- Your specialist and GP will discuss your results with you and inform the Program.
- You will be re-invited to screen 4 years from negative result.

Positive colonoscopy (abnormalities detected)

- Your specialist and GP will discuss your results with you and options for follow-up as per clinical guidelines.
- Your clinical care will continue outside the Screening Program.
- We will send you and your GP a letter confirming screening has ended.

If we have no record of your colonoscopy we will invite you to the Program again in 2 years.

A. You can opt back into the Program at any time by calling the Program and requesting a home test kit.

B. Participation in population screening is not recommended for people with certain symptoms or having regular surveillance colonoscopies. Seek advice from your GP regarding screening suitability.

C. The home test kit refers to the Immunochemical Faecal Occult Blood Test (iFOBT).

D. If you have nominated your GP.

E. A Program Representative is employed by state and territory health departments on behalf of the Program.