



Australian Government

INCREASING BOWEL CANCER SCREENING: TIPS FOR PATIENT OUTREACH

With your help, we're aiming to increase participation rates in the National Bowel Cancer Screening Program. Screening is open to Australians between the ages of 50 to 74, who are registered with Medicare.

You play a key role in helping increase bowel cancer screening participation

Many patients are more likely to complete the bowel screening test when it has been discussed with a trusted health professional.

Targeting patients in your practice around the age of 50 is key. Once people screen the first time, they are more likely to keep screening.

- ✓ **Audit** practice records to find those people aged 50 and over who have never done a bowel cancer screening test — send them a letter, email or text. Templates at www.health.gov.au/nbcsp.
- ✓ **Send** a letter, email or text to 50-year-old patients to encourage participation. Templates at www.health.gov.au/nbcsp.
- ✓ **Encourage** bowel cancer screening for people attending their 715 Health Checks, who are aged 50 and over.
- ✓ **Display** information for patients — National Bowel Cancer Screening Program has test kit instructions in more than 20 languages.
- ✓ **Talk** to your patients aged 50 to 74 about screening — tell them if you've done it (if you feel comfortable).
- ✓ **Diarise** to send patients a reminder six weeks after your practice has issued a kit, encouraging them to complete it.
- ✓ **Educate** and support patients on how to use a bowel screening test kit (demo kits can be made available).
- ✓ **Help** patients complete the Participant Details form — remind them to complete the date the samples were taken and sign the form.
- ✓ **Refer** patients of any age with symptoms, bowel disease or family history of bowel disease to a doctor.

Have you registered with the National Cancer Screening Register HCP Portal yet? Use the Portal to bulk order kits for your practice, check participant details are up to date, and register a kit issue or re-issue at www.ncsr.gov.au.



Australian Government

**NATIONAL
BOWEL CANCER**
SCREENING PROGRAM

More Information

Test Kit Helpline **1800 930 998**

National Cancer Screening Register

www.ncsr.gov.au or **1800 627 701**

www.health.gov.au/nbcsp

