

Colorectal Cancer Screening

Cologuard

vs

FIT

Description:

Multi-target stool DNA looks for altered DNA markers as cells are shed in the stool; a simultaneous FIT is also done.

The FIT (Fecal Immunochemical Test) looks for hidden blood in the stool and is specific for human blood.

How to do the test:

Can be done in the privacy of home. Kit with instructions comes by mail from Exact Sciences. Requires one bowel movement. Once the sample has been collected, it should be returned within a few days.

Can be done in the privacy of home. Comes as a test kit with either test cards or tubes, and instructions. Kit should be returned to the doctor's office or medical lab within a few days.

Benefits:

Able to detect serrated polyps
No bowel prep
Expensive, but covered by most insurance

No bowel prep
Inexpensive

New Hampshire Colorectal Cancer Screening Program
(603) 653-3702

12/2021

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Sensitivity:

Can miss polyps and some cancers
False-positives and false-negatives can occur

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Medication and Dietary Restrictions:

None

None

Frequency of test:

Every 3 years if negative

Annually if negative

Appropriate patient group:

Average-risk men & women
age 45-75

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If the test result is positive for either Cologuard or FIT, a colonoscopy will be needed

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