

COLORECTAL CANCER SCREENING PROGRAM UPDATE

TO: PEI Primary Care Providers
FROM: Colorectal Cancer Screening Program
DATE: August 15, 2022
SUBJECT: Colorectal Cancer (CRC) Diagnostic Navigation Program

Health PEI and the Colorectal Cancer Screening Program have been working to improve coordination and access to cancer screening colonoscopies. **Beginning August 29, 2022**, the screening program will pilot a Colorectal Cancer Diagnostic Navigation Program. The navigation team will direct and support participants of the Colorectal Cancer Screening Program (CCSP) with a positive Fecal Immunochemical Test (FIT) by providing telephone health assessments, bowel prep and procedure information and a colonoscopy appointment if appropriate. One goal of the pilot is to meet the national target of having a colonoscopy procedure within 60 days of a positive fecal test result.

Beginning August 29, 2022 and onward, primary care providers will continue to receive FIT results from the Provincial Laboratory Services for Colorectal Cancer Screening Program (CCSP) participants. However, they will no longer need to refer CCSP participants who tested positive for blood in stool to an endoscopist for a follow-up colonoscopy. Following a telephone health assessment, the navigation team will communicate to the primary care provider the participant status as described below:

PARTICIPANT STATUS		NAVIGATION PROGRAM COMMUNICATION TO PRIMARY CARE PROVIDER
A	Participant accepts direct colonoscopy	Fax: <i>Patient Appt. letter</i> including patient name, MRN, date of test result and appointment date and time of colonoscopy.
B	Participant or Navigator declines direct colonoscopy	Fax: <i>Declined letter</i> including reason for program exclusion: 1. The client is outside the program's age range (50 to 74) 2. The client has declined a colonoscopy procedure. 3. The client is followed by an endoscopist (i.e. inflammatory bowel disease, etc.). 4. The client is up to date for surveillance/follow-up or colonoscopy screening. 5. The client is up to date for surveillance/follow-up or colonoscopy screening and is symptomatic.
C	Navigator declines direct colonoscopy because participant requires an endoscopist consult	Fax: <i>Navigator Declined letter</i> indicating that the navigator has referred participant to an endoscopist for a consult of the risks and benefits of the colonoscopy procedure

Program planners are conducting an implementation evaluation for the fall of 2022 and will communicate any program changes resulting from the evaluation. If you have any questions, please call 1-855-733-0762 to speak with a member of the navigation program team or email cnavigation@ihis.org. You may also refer to the staff resource centre for further details <https://src.healthpei.ca/colorectal-cancer-screening>.