

## **COLON CANCER SCREENING (FIT) TEST**

#### **DESCRIPTION**

The Colon Cancer Screening Test, also known as the FIT Test (Fecal Immunochemical Test) is a good health-monitoring test that detects hemoglobin, or blood, in the stool. The sample is collected in the privacy of your home, and only requires a small water-based sampling from one bowel movement. Kits can either be picked up in-store or purchased online and shipped to you, where offered.

#### FAQ'S

## WHY DO I NEED THIS TEST?

According to the American Cancer Society, colon cancer is the third most common type of cancer diagnosed in men and women in the U.S. And, the lifetime risk of developing colon cancer is 1 in 23 (4.4%) for men and 1 in 25 (4.1%) in women. Routine testing is recommended to screen for possible colorectal cancer or other sources of lower gastrointestinal bleeding.

The FIT Test qualitatively detects human blood in fecal samples. Blood in your stool may indicate lower gastrointestinal bleeding, possibly associated with:

- Diverticulitis
- Ulcerative Colitis
- Polyps
- Colorectal Cancers
- Large Adenomas that bleed

## **HOW LONG WILL IT TAKE TO GET MY LAB TEST RESULTS?**

Test results are reported to you in an average of five (5) to seven (7) business days after samples are received at our testing laboratory. It is important to ship your specimen to the laboratory within two (2) days after collecting the sample.

## **AM I REQUIRED TO FAST FOR THIS LAB TEST?**

No, fasting is not required. There are no dietary or medicinal restrictions to take this test.

### IS A DOCTOR'S ORDER REQUIRED?

Any Lab Test Now's ordering physician will provide the required physician's order on your behalf.

## WHAT TYPE OF SPECIMEN WILL I NEED TO COLLECT FOR THIS TEST?

You will collect a very small water-based stool specimen using a brush provided in the kit. Please follow the collection instructions provided in the kit accurately.

## WHAT IS INCLUDED IN THE COLLECTION KIT?

We make it easy for you to collect the stool sample in the privacy of your own home. Each collection kit contains:

- Easy-to-follow collection and shipping instructions
- A Fecal Brush Kit and sample card
- Lab requisition form
- Pre-paid first-class USPS return shipping envelope to the laboratory

## **DO I HAVE TO GO INTO ANY LAB TEST NOW TO GET TESTED?**

This particular test will require you to collect your own stool sample. You can either purchase a kit at the store or buy online where available and the kit will be shipped to you. After you collect your sample, you will send your specimen to the testing laboratory using the prepaid shipping envelope contained in the collection kit.

# WHAT SHOULD I DO IF MY RESULTS INDICATE THERE IS BLOOD IN MY STOOL?

If you test is positive, you will want to share your test results with your primary care physician or contact our telemedicine partner, <u>DialCare</u>. Your physician or DialCare may provide guidance and a possible referral to a gastroenterologist.

## WHAT IF THE SAMPLE I COLLECTED CANNOT BE TESTED?

Although the possibility is very low, there is a chance that you did not accumulate enough stool specimen for the test to be performed. Sample failure is not known until the test has been completed by the lab. In these instances (<1%), you will be required to order a new kit and re-collect the sample.

### **HOW WILL I RECEIVE MY TEST RESULTS?**

Once your test is completed, the test results will be sent to you through our secure portal or encrypted email to the email address provided when you placed the kit order.

OTHER RELEVANT LAB TESTS Iron and Total Iron Binding Capacity, CMP, CBC and Annual Check-Up Panel
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Ekan Essien, MD, MPH, a native Georgian, received his BA from Duke University. Dr. Essien continued his education at Florida A&M University where he received his Masters of Public Health in Epidemiology; received his medical degree from Meharry Medical College in Nashville, Tennessee; and obtained training in general and trauma surgery at Grady Memorial Hospital at Morehouse School of Medicine. He is a candidate in the post graduate fellowship in anti-aging and regenerative medicine from the American Academy of Anti-Aging Medicine.