## All Sites and Facilities <br> EGD (Esophagogastroduodenoscopy) and Colonoscopy Referral





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## Information and definitions

1 Patient contact date for colonoscopy:
Date when the patient is called/contacted to be seen after a positive FIT, or is ready for recall for screening surveillance.
Referral criteria and timings for procedure
Colonoscopy
Colorectal symptoms

- Urgent (2 weeks)
- High likelihood of cancer based on imaging or physical exam
- Active inflammatory bowel disease
- Semi-urgent (8 weeks)
- New iron deficiency anemia
- Moderately symptomatic: Persistent rectal bleeding, recent acute non-bloody diarrhea, recent change of bowel habit to loose stool
- Other: Please specify history and examination findings
- Routine (26 weeks)
- Chronic symptoms (e.g. chronic, watery diarrhea, chronic erratic bowel habit (alternating diarrhea with constipation))


## Colorectal cancer screening and surveillance/recall

- Screening (8 weeks): See Guideline for Colorectal Screening
- Positive FIT, indicate the date of the positive FIT
- Screening (26 weeks)
- Family history colorectal cancer (see NH Colorectal Screening and Surveillance Guideline)
- Surveillance/recall: See NH Guideline for Colorectal Screening and Surveillance

FIT:

- Inappropriate in symptomatic patients, refer for opinion/investigation
- Following negative colonoscopy in screening and recall/surveillance interval for repeat FIT is 10 years


## Esophagogastroduodenoscopy (EGD)

## Urgent (2 weeks)

Alarm symptoms: Progressive dysphagia or hematemesis, or three or more of the clinical features listed (the yield of EGD for cancer increases with increasing numbers).
Semi-urgent (8 weeks): Two or less of the clinical features listed.
Routine (26 weeks)

- Dyspepsia
- Surveillance (e.g., Barrett's esophagus)
- Investigation for small bowel disease (e.g., celiac)

Triage: Option only, not mandatory, for those who are willing to identify patient who are either
Potentially higher risk as to fitness for colonoscopy, high risk criteria:

- Unstable cardiac, vascular disease or cardiac failure
- Event less than 3 months: IHD, MI, DVT, PE, CVA, TIA, stent, ablation, vascular surgery, coronary artery disease
- Significant lung disease
- Admission less than 8 weeks with COPD or asthma
- Presence of sleep apnea, requirement for home oxygen

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- Other: Frailty, BMI greater than 40, decompensated cirrhosis
- Surgery less than 8 weeks or relevant GI surgery in the past

Potentially suitable for direct access colonoscopy (consider in the following patients):

- Clearly fulfill indication criteria for colonoscopy
- No major high risk fitness criteria as above
- Ability to understand colonoscopy
- No major physical limitations
- No previous poor experience of colonoscopy

Please note: If appointment confirmation has not been received within one month please contact the specialist's office
Note: Complete all mandatory sections that are bolded

