

Checklist for talking with your patient about doing a bowel screening test

Have you:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<p>Checked your patient is eligible for the National Bowel Cancer Screening Program (NBCSP):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Is the patient aged 50-74? <input type="checkbox"/> - Do they have a Medicare or Department of Veteran's Affairs number? (If yes, check whether contact details are up to date. If no, encourage to register.) <input type="checkbox"/> 	
<p>Checked the patient's bowel screening history:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Have they done a bowel screening test in the past two years? <input type="checkbox"/> - Have they had a colonoscopy in the past two years? <input type="checkbox"/> - Are they booked to have a colonoscopy in the near future? <input type="checkbox"/> 	
<p>Checked whether bowel screening is suitable for this patient?</p> <p>Bowel screening is designed to detect changes in the bowel before there are any symptoms. So bowel screening is best for people:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - aged 50-74 <input type="checkbox"/> - and who DO NOT have: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o A strong family history of bowel cancer. That means having a close relative (parent, sibling, or child) who developed bowel cancer under 55 years of age or more than one close relative who has had bowel cancer at any age. <input type="checkbox"/> o An existing bowel problem <input type="checkbox"/> o Signs or symptoms of bowel cancer such as bowel changes, blood in the poo, weight loss, tummy pain or anaemia. <input type="checkbox"/> <p>*A patient with a strong family history of bowel cancer, existing bowel problems or symptoms of bowel cancer should be referred to a GP, as screening may not be the most appropriate testing they require.</p> <p>Check with a GP if in any doubt that bowel screening is suitable for a patient.</p>	



Have you:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<p>Explained to the patient:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Why bowel screening is important? <input type="checkbox"/> - What the test involves? <input type="checkbox"/> - How to do the test? (Talk them through it using the brochure, flipchart or a demo screening kit) <input type="checkbox"/> - The importance of writing the dates the samples were taken on the tubes and the form? <input type="checkbox"/> - How to return the samples and the Participant Details form (by mail, or to the health centre)? <input type="checkbox"/> - What the test results might mean? <input type="checkbox"/> - They can opt off the NBCSP if they wish? <input type="checkbox"/> <p>*Use the flip chart, demo kit and / or 'How to do the Test' brochure to help explain bowel screening to your patients. Show what is inside the kit and how to take the sample.</p>	
<p>Explained the consent provisions of the Participant Details (Health Service Initiated) form.</p> <p>Completed Part A of the Participant Details (Health Service Initiated) form and submitted it for every patient assessed for bowel screening.</p> <p>For any patient who accepted a kit, printed their copy of the form (Part A and Part B) and explained it must be filled in sent back with the completed samples.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Documented in the patient's medical record:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - They have been invited to screen <input type="checkbox"/> - They have been given a kit, declined a kit, or been assessed as unsuitable. <input type="checkbox"/> - And if appropriate: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A reminder to follow-up whether the patient has completed the test <input type="checkbox"/> ○ A reminder for another bowel screening discussion in two years' time <input type="checkbox"/> ○ Alternative arrangements for monitoring high risk patients. <input type="checkbox"/> 	

