**NBT New ICE 2 Week Wait Referral System-Guidance**

We have updated the NBT straight to test ICE system in response to the new NICE Guidance. The NICE Guidance 1.3 for lower gastrointestinal tract cancers is shown below:

1.3.1 Refer adults using a [suspected cancer pathway referral](https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/NG12/chapter/terms-used-in-this-guideline#terms-used-in-this-guideline) (for an appointment within 2 weeks) for colorectal cancer if:

* they are aged 40 and over with [unexplained](https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/NG12/chapter/terms-used-in-this-guideline#terms-used-in-this-guideline) weight loss and abdominal pain **or**
* they are aged 50 and over with unexplained rectal bleeding **or**
* they are aged 60 and over with:
  + iron‑deficiency anaemia **or**
  + changes in their bowel habit, **or**
* tests show occult blood in their faeces (see recommendation 1.3.4 for who should be offered a test for occult blood in faeces). **[new 2015]**

1.3.2 Consider a suspected cancer pathway referral (for an appointment within 2 weeks) for colorectal cancer in adults with a rectal or abdominal mass. **[new 2015]**

1.3.3 Consider a suspected cancer pathway referral (for an appointment within 2 weeks) for colorectal cancer in adults aged under 50 with rectal bleeding **and** any of the following unexplained symptoms or findings:

* abdominal pain
* change in bowel habit
* weight loss
* iron‑deficiency anaemia. **[new 2015]**

1.3.4 Offer testing for occult blood in faeces to assess for colorectal cancer in adults without rectal bleeding who:

* are aged 50 and over with unexplained:
  + abdominal pain **or**
  + weight loss, **or**
* are aged under 60 with:
  + changes in their bowel habit **or**
  + iron‑deficiency anaemia, **or**
* are aged 60 and over and have anaemia even in the absence of iron deficiency. **[new 2015]**
* are aged 60 and over and have anaemia even in the absence of iron deficiency. **[new 2015]**
* are aged 60 and over and have anaemia even in the absence of iron deficiency. **[new 2015]**

**The new ICE pathway is based on the new NICE guidance shown above**

There are many combinations of symptoms to consider now but in order to use ICE it is important that you **start with the main symptom as described in the guidance**. The choices available to you are:

* **>50 with unexplained rectal bleeding**-this test is on the right side of the screen and we recommend a flexible sigmoidoscopy
* **Abdominal or rectal mass**-this test is on the right of the screen and is a symptom that still requires clinic referral via NHS eReferral.

For all other symptoms the recommended test is either colonoscopy, CT colonoscopy or plain CT. All these options are now available to you to book directly.

The three main options are:

* **>40 with unexplained weight loss and abdominal pain**
* **Iron deficiency anaemia (IDA) or non- iron deficient anaemia >60**
* **Change in bowel habit >60**

The next 2 symptom complexes require more than one symptom to be present and have age rules attached

The 2 main choices are:

* **Rectal bleeding <50 plus another symptom**

Or

* **Positive FOB plus another symptom**

If you tick one of these options you will then be asked if your patient fulfils the addition criteria as shown below. If your patient does not fulfil the criteria please refer as a non 2 week wait

* **Rectal bleeding <50**

Plus

* + Abdominal pain
  + CIBH
  + Weight loss
  + IDA
* **Abdominal pain**

Plus

* + abdominal pain >50
  + weight loss>50
  + CIBH <60
  + IDA<60

If your patient is found to have a polyp on CTC that is low risk of cancer ie less than 1 cm, there is also a tab where you can book them a colonoscopy or flexible sigmoidoscopy to remove the polyp. This is a new tab on the left hand side. If you are unsure whether the patient is fit for a test please refer them to clinic to discuss it.

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