

Patients Discharged ceased from screening

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Key Documents Owner:	Emma Duggan	Bowel Cancer & Bowel Scope Screening Manager
Approved by:	Bowel Screening Operational Meeting	
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Key Amendments

Date	Amendment	Approved by
19 th June 2019	Documents extended for 6 months whilst reviewed	Emma Duggan
11 th Feb 2020	Documents extended for 6 months whilst review and approval is processed	Emma Duggan
27 th July 2020	Documents extended for 6 months during COVID-19 period	QGC/Gold Meeting
1 st March 2021	Document extended for 6 months as per Trust agreement 11/02/2021	
16 th July 2021	Documents extended for 6 months whilst review and approval is processed	Emma Duggan/ Mr Stephen Lake
30 th Nov 2022	Document approved with no amendments	SCSD Governance Meeting
17 th February 2026	Document reviewed by BCSP Team and required no changes	Emma Duggan

Discharged Patients

1. Discharged refers to those screening patients who have nothing abnormal detected at colonoscopy, a diagnosis of low risk polyps or other non-polyp pathology, episode is closed and the patient is therefore returned to BCSP FIT kit.
2. The patient will receive a post colonoscopy courtesy call on the next available working day after their procedure. At this time, they will be told again of their referral back to the BCSP and that a confirmatory letter will be sent to them with a copy going to their GP.
3. Following a normal colonoscopy, a diagnosis of low risk polyps or other non-polyp pathology, the patient will be referred back into the BCSP by advancing their episode on the BCSS system.
4. All paperwork, including copies of correspondence, must be filed in the patient’s hospital notes by the admin team.
5. The BCSS database will be completed by the SSP.

Please note that the key documents are not designed to be printed, but to be used on-line. This is to ensure that the correct and most up-to-date version is being used. If, in exceptional circumstances, you need to print a copy, please note that the information will only be valid for 24 hours and should be read in conjunction with the key document supporting information and/or Key Document intranet page, which will provide approval and review information.

Ceased Patients

Ceasing applies to patients who, have no functioning bowel or, are in an alternative surveillance programme. (See BCSP Ceasing Guidelines for full definitions).

1. No functioning bowel.
2. If participants contact the BCSP office notifying that they have no functioning bowel, the SSP would check clinical notes and if appropriate discuss with screening director. If it is confirmed that they are not suitable for screening, SSP should contact the Hub to cease patient.
3. The programme hub should cease screening subjects when the absence of bowel is notified.
4. A letter should be sent out from the hub to the individual to confirm that they have been taken out of the programme and their GP should also be notified.
5. Copies of all relevant correspondence must be retained in the participant's hospital notes. This may mean raising a set of notes specifically to file the information by the admin team.
6. A person who has already had bowel disease or is at increased risk of developing bowel cancer may already be in a surveillance programme which offers more rigorous testing than the BCSP, and therefore would not benefit from additional screening.
7. An individual should be advised to remain in the screening programme if their alternative surveillance programme does not monitor the entire bowel, if it is not a permanent arrangement, or if there is a risk of being lost to follow up.
8. A participant who is terminally ill should be treated as if they were well for as long as possible. When the participant reaches the final stages of terminal illness the programme hub should be informed by a spouse or carer that the individual has reached the final stages of terminal illness. At this stage the programme hub should suspend any open screening episodes to prevent further correspondence from being produced. The individual will be ceased automatically when the death is notified formally to the NHS.
9. A participant who has the capacity to consent is entitled to permanently withdrawn from NHS BCSP. A person who lacks capacity to consent may also be able to make an informed choice to withdraw. Where possible written documentation should be received from the patient to confirm that a cease request has been made alternatively if a telephone request is made a supervisor should witness the call so that at least two members of staff can independently confirm and document the ceasing instruction. If a patient is unable to communicate the request can be relayed by a third person such as a GP, carer or spouse. When a participant lacks capacity to cease from screening, a best interests meeting may determine that it is not within the best interests of the participant to continue with NHS BCSP.

REFERENCES

Bowel Cancer Screening Programme (2007) Ceasing Guidelines.