WAHT-KD-021



Patients who decline to proceed investigation

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Key Documents Owner:	Emma Duggan	Bowel Cancer & Bowel Scope Screening		
		Manager		
Approved by:	Bowel Screening O	Bowel Screening Operational Meeting		
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K	ley	Am	end	men	ts

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	Emma Duggan/ Mr
	processed	Stephen Lake
November 2022	Document approved with no amendments	SCSD Governance

Introduction

The purpose of this guideline is:

- To ensure patient who attends SSP positive assessment clinic, but choose not to proceed with investigations, understands the risks involved.
- To ensure that the patient's GP is notified that the patient has declined investigations following an abnormal FIT kit.
- To ensure patients understand that should they change their mind they are entitled to contact the screening office for investigation to be arranged.
- To ensure that patients are aware that they will receive a FIT kit every two years under the screening programme whilst they remain within the screening age range (60-75 years). After which they have the option of self-referral into BCSP FIT testing.

Scope of This Document

This document applies to Specialist Screening Practitioners (SSPs) within the Herefordshire & Worcestershire Bowel Cancer Screening Programme.

The information within this procedure is in addition to the information available with the Service specification no.26 – Bowel Cancer Screening programme (NHS 2019).

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Implementation

This guideline will be implemented in the event of a patient who declines to proceed with investigations. This includes consultation of the policy at the BCSP operational meeting. The policy is available on the trust computer shared drive. All BCSP staff will be notified of this documents existence and it will form part of the induction plan for new staff.

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Patient pathway



- The risks associated with not investigating the cause of positive FIT testing.
- That the patient is entitled to contact the BCSP Hub or Screening Office should they change their mind and screening episode will be re-opened and investigation arranged.
- That the current screening episode will be closed, but a further FIT testing kit will be sent in two years, provided the patient is still in the screening age range.
- That the patients GP will be notified.

Patient advanced on BCSS recording decision not to proceed and documenting in episode notes details of the conversation regarding the patient's decision.

Letter to patient and GP automatically produced by BCSS to be printed by SSP and sent by post. Should the SSP feel it is necessary an individual letter to patient or GP, tailored to the individual's circumstances may be produced and sent.

Reference List

NHS (2019). NHS public health functions agreement 2019-2020. Service specification no.26 – Bowel Cancer Screening programme (NHS 2019). [Online] available from:

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Worcestershire Acute Hospitals NHS Trust

www.england.nhs.uk>uploads>2017/04>Service-Specification-No.26-Bowel_cancer_screening.pdf [Accessed May 2020].

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