



England

Bowel Cancer Screening Resources

**North-West: Cheshire and Merseyside & Lancashire
and South Cumbria**

January 2026

Contents

- [What is the Bowel Cancer Screening Programme?](#)
- [The Screening Test](#)
- Useful [contacts](#) for Lancashire & South Cumbria and Cheshire & Merseyside
- [NW Call for a Kit Teams \(CFAK\)](#)
- [The Bowel Screening Hub](#)
- [Improving Uptake for Non-responders - 3rd party kit requests](#)
- [NW resources and reports](#)
- [National Programme Guidance](#)
- [Information and leaflets in easy read and accessible formats](#)
- [Information and leaflets including in other languages](#)
- [Information for lesbian, gay and transgender people](#)



Click on the links to go straight to the page.



What is the Bowel Cancer Screening Programme

Aim of the Programme

Screening aims to detect bowel cancer at an early stage in people with no symptoms. This is when treatment is more likely to be effective. Screening can also find polyps. These are abnormal clumps of cells in the bowel. Polyps are not cancers but may develop into cancers over time. Polyps can be easily removed, which reduces the risk of bowel cancer developing. Regular bowel cancer screening reduces the risk of dying from bowel cancer.

Who is eligible for screening?

Bowel screening is offered to everyone aged 50-74 who is registered with a GP and lives in England. They will automatically be sent an NHS bowel cancer screening kit every 2 years.

Those aged 75 or over, can ask for a kit every 2 years by phoning the free bowel cancer screening helpline on **0800 707 60 60**.



NHS

Everyone aged 50 to 74 will be sent an NHS bowel cancer screening kit every 2 years.

The kit can detect signs of cancer before you notice anything is wrong.



NHS

Finding bowel cancer early makes it easier to treat.

The NHS bowel cancer screening kit can detect signs of cancer before you notice anything is wrong.



What is the Bowel Cancer Screening Programme

The Screening Test

- The bowel cancer screening test comes as a kit known as the Faecal Immunochemical Test kit or, FIT kit for short.
- The kit requires 1 sample of poo in a small plastic sample bottle which is then posted to a laboratory for testing.
- Everything required for the test, will be sent to the individual and included within the pack.
- The kit is used to check for tiny amounts of blood in poo. It does not diagnose bowel cancer, but it's a simple way to find out if someone may require further tests.
- For information on how to use a bowel cancer screening kit, please see the following link - this is also **available in multiple languages**: [Bowel Cancer Screening Kit : How to use](#)

There are 2 types of result:

- No further tests needed - invited to do another screening test in 2 years (if still under 75)
- Further tests needed - blood was found in the poo sample. This does not necessarily mean the person has bowel cancer (the blood could be the result of something like piles). The person will be offered an appointment to talk about having another test called a colonoscopy to look for the cause.
- For further information on bowel screening or results, please see the following website; <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/bowel-cancer-screening/home-test/>



Useful Contacts for Lancashire & South Cumbria and Cheshire & Merseyside

Team	Contact email
NHSE North West Screening & Immunisation Team (general enquiries)	england.nwsit@nhs.net
Lancashire Bowel Cancer Screening Programme (Blackpool Teaching Hospital NHS Foundation Trust)	lucy.stanley2@nhs.net
Cumbria & Morecambe Bay Bowel Cancer Screening Programme (University Hospitals of Morecambe Bay NHS Foundation Trust)	Cumbria.BowelCancerScreeningService@mbht.nhs.uk
Cheshire Bowel Cancer Screening Programme (Mid Cheshire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust)	Bowel.Screening@mcht.nhs.uk
Merseyside and North Cheshire Bowel Cancer Screening Programme (Liverpool University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust)	b.screening@nhs.net
Liverpool & Wirral Bowel Cancer Screening Programme (Liverpool University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust)	lwbcsp@liverpoolft.nhs.uk

North West Call for a Kit Teams (CFAK)

Working in partnership with GP practices across the region to target non-responders and improve access to, and uptake of, bowel cancer screening in communities

Team	Contact email
Lancashire & South Cumbria CFAK team (Blackpool Teaching Hospital & Community CVS)	bfwh.lancscfak@nhs.net
Cheshire & Merseyside CFAK team (Liverpool University Hospital Foundation Trust)	BowelScreeningCallForAKit@liverpoolft.nhs.uk



The Bowel Screening Hub

The North West is supported by the Midlands and North West Bowel Cancer Screening Hub, which processes all FIT test kits for the region.

Understanding the Bowel Cancer Screening Hub – videos

Bowel cancer screening hub process

https://www.canva.com/design/DAGjkALsBGQ/sw0bGH2mPzFq3gx5yEW3EA/watch?utm_content=DAGjkALsBGQ&utm_campaign=designshare&utm_medium=link2&utm_source=uniquelinks&utlId=h39200d6a8b

Bowel cancer screening mythbuster

https://www.canva.com/design/DAGkC1CJb50/6ImE33jcGI5MefesKSu0cg/watch?utm_content=DAGkC1CJb50&utm_campaign=designshare&utm_medium=link2&utm_source=uniquelinks&utlId=h0a9f33cbe6



Bowel Cancer Screening – Improving Uptake for Non-Responders

GP Practice 3rd party kit requests

A third-party request allows a GP practice to request a bowel cancer screening kit on behalf of an eligible registered patient who has not responded to an invitation.

GP practices with bowel cancer screening uptake below 67% are eligible to implement **third-party requests**
(Uptake data available via Public Health Profiles – OHID) [Fingertips | Department of Health and Social Care](#)

Practices can express interest by contacting the NHS North West and Midlands Bowel Cancer Screening Hub:
bowelscreening@nhs.net

The Hub will issue an **agreement form** and **best practice checklist** to support:

- Activation of third-party requests
- Identification of eligible registered patients

For **individuals with identified additional needs**, practices can notify the Hub via the same route to ensure **reasonable adjustments**, including:

Learning disability flagging

Translated materials

Adapted or braille screening kits

NW resources and reports



Anyone with an NHS email can set up an FutureNHS account

- **NHSE have a lot of resources on their FutureNHS page accessed here:** [NHSE North West Public Health Commissioning Team \(S7a Screening and Immunisation Programmes\) - FutureNHS Collaboration Platform](#)
- **NW Disability Report:** [Disability Report - NHSE North West Public Health Commissioning Team \(S7a Screening and Immunisation Programmes\) - FutureNHS Collaboration Platform](#)
- **NW Care Co-ordinators Toolkit:** [North West Care Co-ordinator toolkit Improving Uptake of NHS Screening Programmes - NHSE North West Public Health Commissioning Team \(S7a Screening and Immunisation Programmes\) - FutureNHS Collaboration Platform](#)
- **NW Learning Disability toolkit:** [2025.26_NHSE_NW_Learning Disability Toolkit_Cancer Screening - NHSE North West Public Health Commissioning Team \(S7a Screening and Immunisation Programmes\) -FutureNHS Collaboration Platform](#)
- **NW Cervical Screening Resource Pack:** [2025 Cervical Screening Resource Pack - NHSE North West Public Health Commissioning Team \(S7a Screening and Immunisation Programmes\) – Futures](#)
- **NW Breast Screening Resource Pack:** [2025 Breast Screening Resource Pack - NHSE North West Public Health Commissioning Team \(S7a Screening and Immunisation Programmes\) - Futures](#)
- **CRUK How Healthcare Professionals can support people to access Bowel Cancer Screening:** [Bowel Cancer Screening | Cancer Research UK](#)
- **CRUK Bowel Cancer Screening Primary Care Good Practice Guide:** [cruk_bowel_cancer_screening_good_practice_guide.pdf](#)

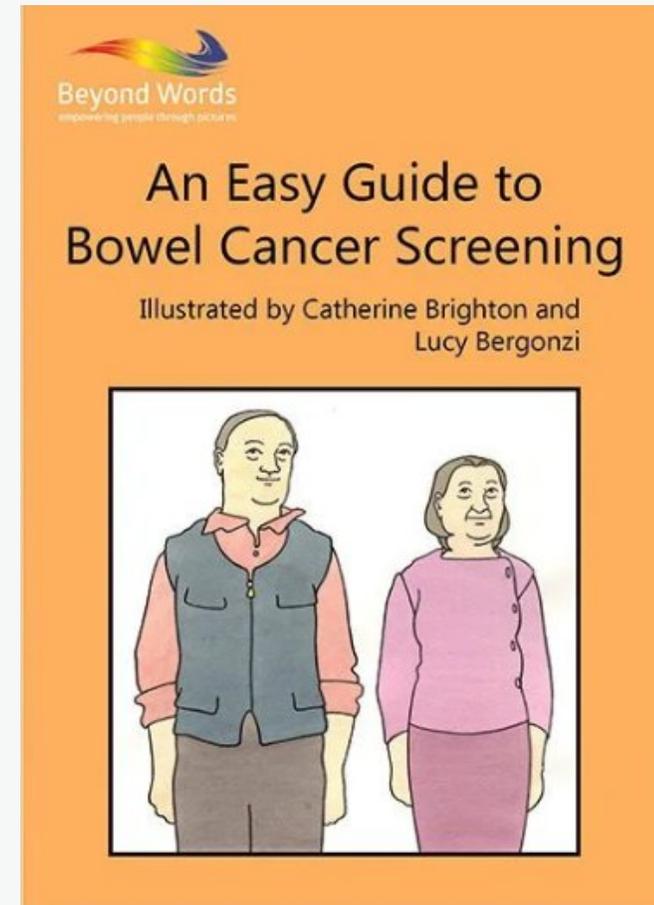
National Programme Guidance



- [Bowel cancer screening: programme overview - GOV.UK](#)
- [Bowel cancer screening: professional guidance - GOV.UK](#)
- [Bowel cancer screening kit: how to use - GOV.UK](#)
- [Bowel cancer screening: colonoscopy - GOV.UK](#)
- [Bowel cancer screening: having a CT colonography \(CTC\) scan - GOV.UK](#)
- [Bowel cancer screening: information leaflets - GOV.UK](#)
- [NHS population screening: access for all - GOV.UK](#)

Information and Leaflets in easy read and accessible formats

- [Bowel cancer screening – An easy read guide](#)
- [Bowel_cancer_screening_colonoscopy_easy_guide](#)
- [Bowel Cancer Screening CTC scan easy guide](#)
- [Bowel Cancer Screening Pre Invitation Easy Read](#)
- [Bowel Cancer Screening No Further Tests Easy Read](#)
- [Bowel cancer screening letters: BSL signed content - GOV.UK](#)
- Easy read resources: [Free stories & resources — Beyond Words](#)
- [NHS population screening: access for all - GOV.UK](#)



Information and Leaflets (including in other languages)

- [Your guide to NHS bowel cancer screening - GOV.UK](#)

This information explains NHS bowel cancer screening and why it is offered. It is available in English and 30 language translations.

- [British Sign Language \(BSL\) signed content: Taking part in NHS bowel cancer screening - GOV.UK](#)

You can watch a British Sign Language version of NHS bowel cancer screening

- [Audio transcript: Your guide to NHS bowel screening podcast - GOV.UK](#)

A simple animation showing screening tests offered to women and men throughout their lives, including bowel cancer screening, is available:

- English: [Population screening explained - GOV.UK](#)
- Urdu, Somali, Romanian, Portuguese, Polish, Mandarin, Lithuanian, Latvian, French, Bengali: [Lifetime screening animations on Vimeo](#)

English العربية български
বাংলা Deutsch Ελληνικά
Español فارسی Français
ગોજિયન हिंदी Magyar
Italiano Lietuvių Latviešu
नेपाली ਪੰਜਾਬੀ ગુજરાતી Polski
پښتو Português Română
Русский язык Slovensky
Soomaali Shqip தமிழ்
Türkçe Українська اردو
Tiếng Việt 简体中文
繁體中文 (臺灣)

Information for lesbian, gay and transgender people

- [NHS population screening: information for transgender people - GOV.UK](#)
- [NHS population screening: information for trans and non-binary people - GOV.UK](#)
- [Trans and non-binary cancer screening | Cancer Research UK](#)



- <https://www.theguardian.com/society/2024/sep/19/trans-people-england-missing-vital-cancer-screening>
- <https://www.health.com/gender-diverse-transgender-people-cancer-screening-8668665>