



Important Announcement from Drs. Lisa Del Giudice and Ed Kucharski, Regional Primary Care Leads

COVID-19: CANCER SCREENING UPDATE

October 29, 2020

ColonCancerCheck – Colorectal Cancer Screening

NEW! Routine average risk colorectal cancer screening with Fecal Immunochemical Testing (FIT) has resumed.

As of October 20, 2020, primary care providers can submit FIT requisitions for all eligible people ages 50 to 74 years at average risk for colorectal cancer who are due for colorectal cancer screening.

- Due to on-going COVID-19 safety precautions and potential delays in FIT kit mailing, people may experience delays in receiving a FIT kit
- Do not batch fax FIT requisitions
- LifeLabs will continue to process all FIT requisitions as quickly as possible. If you have recently sent a FIT requisition for your patient, please do not send a repeat order unless at least **4 to 6 weeks** have passed and your patient has not received a FIT kit. Sending duplicate requisitions could cause further delays.
- To avoid further delays, please ensure a valid OHIP number including updated version code and completeness and accuracy of patient's mailing address
- People with a history of low risk adenoma or small hyperplastic polyp(s) in the recto-sigmoid can be screened with FIT
- Only refer people at increased risk for colorectal cancer to screening with colonoscopy

Ontario Cervical Screening Program – Cervical Cancer Screening

Ontario Health (Cancer Care Ontario) is recommending that routine cervical screening tests continue to resume in a gradual manner.

- Start cervical screening at age 25 (as per Canadian Task Force on Preventive Health Care guidelines)
- People with a first time LSIL or ASCUS can be rescreened with cytology in approximately 12 months
 - Individuals with two consecutive cytologic abnormalities should be referred to colposcopy
- The groups noted below are at elevated risk and should be screened annually:
 - Discharged from colposcopy with persistent low-grade cytology
 - Discharged from colposcopy with an HPV positive test and normal or low-grade cytology
 - Immunocompromised (organ transplant, immunosuppressive medications, HIV/AIDS)

Ontario Breast Screening Program – Breast Cancer Screening

Ontario Health (Cancer Care Ontario) is recommending that routine breast screening tests continue to resume in a gradual manner.

- Many Ontario Breast Screening Program (OBSP) sites in the Toronto Central LHIN are now able to schedule and perform average risk screening mammograms
- OBSP sites across the Toronto Central LHIN are experiencing numerous cancellations and no shows, which is greatly impacting the ability to catch up on the backlog
- Please remind your patients to attend their scheduled screening mammogram appointments

Follow-up of abnormal screening results for any screening program continues to be recommended.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us via email.

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