Purpose

To increase the access patients have to annual FIT (fecal immunochemical test) to screen for colorectal cancer (CRC).

Policy

Patients ages 45-75 & at average risk for colorectal cancer can be offered a yearly FIT to be done at home or in-office. FIT tests should be completed yearly, or colonoscopy every 10 years (or as instructed by provider).

These may be offered during routine MA visits, phone calls, or any time a MA notices that the patient is eligible for FIT testing.

Any time a staff member sees the "FIT PENDING" tag – please remind patient to bring in completed FIT test or offer a new kit.

Patients who are high risk should be assessed by a provider for colonoscopy consideration.

Procedure

1 Identify eligible patients

- CRC screening history
 - FIT test more than one year ago
 - Colonoscopy more than 10 years ago
- Average Risk Patients
 - No family history of colorectal cancer
 - No personal history of colon polyps
- High Risk Patients
 - Family history of colorectal cancer
 - o Make sure to document in "Family History" for provider reference

2 Discuss FIT

- If eligible, offer FIT test for colorectal cancer screening to patient. Discuss CRC, FIT test, and colonoscopy as appropriate
 - If patient has persistent questions, make note for provider to discuss with patient
- About colorectal cancer

- Colorectal cancer is the second-leading cause of cancer death in the United States
- Colorectal cancer is often preventable with testing of people who have no symptoms, often called screening. *Note: patients may understand the terms "test" or "testing" more easily than the word "screening"*
- About FIT
 - These tests work by detecting small, invisible amounts of blood that can come from colon polyps or early colorectal cancer
 - Cheap only costs \$10 per kit
 - If done every year, they can help find polyps and cancers before they become life threatening
- About colonoscopy
 - Pros: Only need to be done every 10 years
 - Cons: Expensive (~\$1,200 \$2,000 without insurance)

3 Screen for contraindications

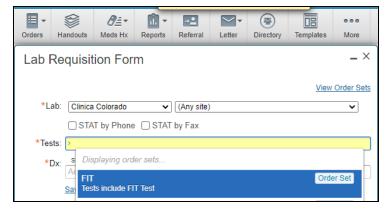
- Active hemorrhoid bleeding wait until bleeding has stopped to perform test
- Menstrual bleeding wait until bleeding has stopped to perform test

4 Administer FIT

- Provide client with test kit and written instructions in client's preferred language
 - Ask to be returned in a week's time
- Review instructions on how to complete test with client
 - If patient can "poop-on-demand", offer to complete in-office
- Explain procedure to return completed test kit to clinic or laboratory
- Close the loop: have client tell back the information, correct misinformation

5 Document

- Add patient tag: "FIT PENDING"
- Add documentation about MA giving FIT test to existing note.
- Order FIT Test
 - Orders > Lab Orders > Lab: Clinica Colorado > Tests: FIT (Order Set)



- At checkout: Front Desk makes sure patient has the test in-hand
 - If patient has already paid for a FIT test, they should not pay again
 - Ask to be returned in a week's time

Standing Order Authorization

This policy is effective for all patients of Clinica Colorado until rescinded.

Medical Director Name	
Medical Director Signature	
Date	