

## Bowel Cancer Screening at Gastronorth

### Why?

- 1 in 13 people will develop Bowel Cancer in their lifetime
- 15,000 people are diagnosed each year in Australia - men, women, young & old
- Bowel Cancer risk increases with age, screening every 1-2 years from 50 years could save your life
- Only 25% of Bowel Cancer cases have a family history or hereditary contribution

### The good news?

- 90% of bowel cancers can be successfully treated if detected early
- This can be identified through a simple poo test (faecal occult blood test -FOBT) and colonoscopy

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## The Tests

### Poo Test

The National Bowel Cancer Screening Program invites Australians aged 50 -74 years to perform a free Faecal Occult Blood Test (FOBT) kit every 2 years through the postal service. This test checks for tiny amounts of blood that may come from bowel polyps (a growth of the bowel lining) or bowel cancer. Results are sent to you and your GP.

If positive, a colonoscopy is recommended.

### Colonoscopy

Bowel cancer or pre-cancerous polyps can be detected by a colonoscopy and polyps can be removed at colonoscopy to reduce the risk of future bowel cancer.

If you have symptoms such as a persistent change in bowel habit, unexplained abdominal pain, bleeding or weight loss, then a colonoscopy may be recommended instead of the screening poo test (FOBT).

Some people with a strong family history of bowel cancer are also recommended to have colonoscopy instead of the poo test (FOBT).

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### Summary

- Please talk your GP if you are concerned about any of the symptoms mentioned above or if you have a family history of bowel cancer
- We strongly recommend the FOBT to be done every 2 years from age 50 if you are well
- At Gastronorth we work with you and your GP to perform high quality colonoscopy.

### Why Gastronorth?

Expert and comprehensive care | No waiting time | No gap payments for those with private health insurance | Excellent follow up with your GP | Friendly & supportive team

**To make an appointment for bowel cancer screening, please contact us on -**

call: 9468 9700 web: [gastronorth.com.au](http://gastronorth.com.au) (via contact form)