

# Valley Medical Laboratories

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## **TO OUR PATIENTS AND HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS: Fecal Occult Blood Testing Suspended**

Please note that all lab providers in BC have suspended Fecal Occult Blood testing using Fecal Immunochemical Testing (FIT) due to a manufacturer reagent problem.

We are investigating the issue in conjunction with the manufacturer, the Ministry of Health, the BC Cancer Agency Colon Screening Program, and other BC lab providers.

More information on the status of testing will be provided when it becomes available. We are currently not able to estimate when testing will resume.

### **What this means:**

#### **A. For patients with a requisition for fecal occult blood testing**

- Collection kits will not be issued.
- A copy of the requisition will be returned to the patient.
- We will keep a record of outstanding requests and notify patients when testing resumes.

#### **B. For patients submitting a specimen**

- We will accept the specimen, but it will not be tested. It will be disposed of safely.
- A copy of the requisition will be returned to the patient.
- We will keep a record of outstanding requests and notify patients when testing resumes.

#### **C. For patients who have recently submitted a specimen that has not yet been reported**

- Testing will not be performed.
- We will keep a record of outstanding requests and notify patients when testing resumes.

For updates regarding the availability of the FIT test, please visit <http://www.bccancer.bc.ca/screening/colon> or call 1-877-70-COLON (26566)

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