

## Bowel Cancer Screening – Electronic GP Test Results

NHS Connecting for Health, Systems & Service Delivery and the National Cancer Screening Programme would like to make you aware of the following key message and to seek your assistance to make GP Practices aware of this useful development.

The Bowel Cancer Screening System (BCSS) can now send FOBT result messages electronically to GP practice systems. Nearly three million individual result letters are sent from BCSS per year to practices, and there is a considerable cost associated with printing, handling and posting these results. There is also a significant task at the practice end opening and reviewing individual results and then making sure individual medical records in the practice are updated appropriately. There was lengthy consultation with GPs and the BMA before undertaking this development on BCSS. Every feedback we have received has suggested this change would be popular with practices.

Practices are able to choose to receive electronic result messages in place of hard copy results letters. There has been a relatively slow start in 2010, but about 100 practices are now working and the links are well proven.

The FOBT “results” that are sent in this way are correctly READ coded by the NHS CFH central server before they are sent to the GP Practices. The GP practice does not need to re-code them when importing into the patient’s records. The Read Codes are as follows:

- **686A Normal**
- **686B Abnormal**
- **686C Incomplete Participation**
- **6867 Spoilt**
- **90w2 Non Response**

Abnormal results sent electronically will always be accompanied by a hard copy letter in confirmation.

Please note that this new communication facility does not alter the way the Bowel Cancer Screening Programme is working. There are no new duties required of the GP practice. Receiving FOBT results electronically is simply an alternative that GP practices can choose either instead of or as well as receiving results by post.

Of the practice systems in use, the following are compatible or plan to be compatible:

- |                                      |                        |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------|
| • <b>InPractice Systems (Vision)</b> | <b>Already live</b>    |
| • <b>Microtest</b>                   | <b>Already live</b>    |
| • <b>iSOFT</b>                       | <b>April/May 2011</b>  |
| • <b>EMIS LV</b>                     | <b>June 2011</b>       |
| • <b>EMIS PCS</b>                    | <b>June 2011</b>       |
| • <b>EMIS WEB</b>                    | <b>June 2011</b>       |
| • <b>CSC (TPP)</b>                   | <b>To be confirmed</b> |

If you wish to implement this service at your practice, or learn some more about the process, please get in touch with your local Bowel Cancer Screening Programme hub.

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E-mail BCSS Hub contact details are:

London Hub	<a href="mailto:Nlh-tr.bcsp@nhs.net">Nlh-tr.bcsp@nhs.net</a>
Eastern Hub	<a href="mailto:NUHNT.BCSPEASTERN@nhs.net">NUHNT.BCSPEASTERN@nhs.net</a>
Southern Hub	<a href="mailto:neil.stubbs@nhs.net">neil.stubbs@nhs.net</a>
Midlands and North West Hub	<a href="mailto:bowel.screening@uhcw.nhs.uk">bowel.screening@uhcw.nhs.uk</a>
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