

Health Care Provider Bulletin

LifeLabs Service Update 02/22/2024

Guaiac Fecal Occult Blood Testing (gFOBT) Discontinuation

Effective March 18, 2024, LifeLabs will no longer offer the Guaiac Fecal Occult Blood Test (gFOBT) in British Columbia as the manufacturer is no longer producing this product.

By medical directive, LifeLabs will substitute all requests for gFOBT with a Fecal Immunochemical Test (FIT) collection kit. The FIT test is covered by the B.C. Medical Services Plan (MSP).

FIT is a highly advanced diagnostic test that is recommended for colorectal cancer screening because of its several advantages over gFOBT testing:

- FIT is more specific for lower gastrointestinal tract bleeding which improves its sensitivity and specificity for detecting advanced neoplasia and colorectal cancer.
- FIT is semiquantitative and requires no dietary restrictions.
- Only one stool sample is required.

Should you have any additional questions, please contact LifeLabs' customer care centre at 1-800-431-7206.

Sincerely,

LifeLabs