

Faecal occult blood test (FOBT)

Identifying and definitional attributes

Metadata item type:	Glossary Item
METEOR identifier:	564027
Registration status:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Health, Standard 29/08/2014

Definition: A self-administered test to detect blood in bowel motions, but not bowel cancer itself. The FOBT is analysed by a pathology laboratory, and the results forwarded to the participant and their primary health care practitioner (if one is nominated). For the National Bowel Cancer Screening Program (NBCSP), two FOBT samples are collected.

Pathologists categorise the returned FOBT into one of three groups:

1. Correctly completed
2. Incorrectly completed
3. Unsatisfactory

Participants are provided with specific instructions on how to complete the FOBT. Any tests not completed according to these instructions are classified as incorrectly completed. Unsatisfactory tests are those that have expired, arrive at the laboratory more than 14 days after the first sample was taken or are damaged. Participants with FOBTs that are not correctly completed or are unsatisfactory are requested to complete another FOBT.

Relational attributes

Metadata items which use this glossary item:

[Bowel cancer screening test cluster](#)

- [Health](#), Standard 05/02/2021

[Bowel cancer screening test cluster](#)

- [Health](#), Superseded 16/01/2020

[Bowel cancer screening test cluster](#)

- [Health](#), Superseded 05/02/2021

[Bowel cancer screening test result code N\[A\]](#)

- [Health](#), Standard 29/08/2014

[Bowel cancer screening test type code N](#)

- [Health](#), Standard 29/08/2014

[Bowel screening test completion status code N](#)

- [Health](#), Standard 29/08/2014

[Cancer screening test type](#)

- [Health](#), Standard 29/08/2014

[National Bowel Cancer Screening Program NBEDS 2014-18](#)

- [Health](#), Superseded 06/09/2018

[National Bowel Cancer Screening Program NBEDS 2018–19](#)

- [Health](#), Superseded 12/12/2018

[National Bowel Cancer Screening Program NBEDS 2019–20](#)

- [Health](#), Superseded 16/01/2020

[National Bowel Cancer Screening Program NBEDS 2020–21](#)

- [Health](#), Superseded 05/02/2021

[National Bowel Cancer Screening Program NBEDS 2021–22](#)

- [Health](#), Superseded 17/12/2021

[National Bowel Cancer Screening Program NBEDS 2022–23](#)

- [Health](#), Standard 17/12/2021

[Person—cancer screening test type, bowel cancer code N](#)

- [Health](#), Standard 05/02/2021

[Person—cancer screening test type, bowel cancer code N](#)

- [Health](#), Superseded 05/02/2021

[Valid National Bowel Cancer Screening Program \(NBCSP\) screening test](#)

- [Health](#), Standard 29/08/2014