



Newsletter

Issue 2
February 2022

Welcome to the February edition of the National Endoscopy Programme's Clinical Pathways Newsletter

This newsletter has been produced to share news and progress relating to the Clinical Pathways workstream with colleagues working in Endoscopy Services across Wales.

This month's edition focuses on FIT in the symptomatic service as we are currently focusing our efforts on the FIT position nationally and preparing for our learning event. Read on for more information below...

Clinical
Pathways



Faecal-Immunochemical Testing (FIT) is a test that can identify signs of bowel disease, which is being implemented across Wales across primary and secondary care. [Click here](#) for more information and guidance on our website about the use of FIT in the Symptomatic Service. We have recently been catching up with each Health Board individually, to get the latest on where they are with FIT in the Lower Gastro-Intestinal Pathway. We have heard about the great progress that has been made and had some good feedback from clinicians on using FIT in their practice.

"I think one of the benefits of FIT is picking those cancers up in younger patients who don't meet the NICE guidelines, who have traditionally risked a delayed diagnosis or miss. So, I think generally it is working well. I think our confidence has grown and the confidence in primary care with the test, that's grown as well"

Mr Michael Thornton, Consultant Surgeon at Wrexham Maelor Hospital, Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board

We've also heard about some challenges that colleagues are facing and areas where additional support would be welcomed. Five Welsh Health Boards have now fully rolled out its use across low-risk and high-risk populations.



"The implementation of the CAV FIT pilot amidst extraordinary circumstances has been a successful collaboration between primary and secondary care. Thanks to the concerted effort by teams in gastroenterology, colorectal surgery, primary care, radiology and PHW, this has been rolled out to around 7000 patients in 11 months.' 'There have been lessons learnt from the pilot and we would be keen to share this amongst colleagues at the event"

Dr Rajeswari Ramaraj, Consultant Gastroenterologist, Cardiff & Vale University Health Board

If you have some thoughts or comments about your experience of using FIT in the Symptomatic Service, we'd be grateful to hear from you. We have developed a short form to give NHS staff across Wales the opportunity to submit feedback- it should only take 5-10mins to complete. Please [click here](#) to access it now.

All Wales FIT learning event - 27th April 2022 13:00 -17:00

The NEP are hosting a virtual learning event to bring healthcare professionals across Wales together to discuss the latest research and evidence base, and will feature key speakers from Welsh health boards about their experiences and evaluation of FIT in practice. Please [click here](#) to register to attend.

In the Clinical Pathways workstream, more work also continues in our other key areas, such as Colon Capsule Endoscopy and the National Recovery Plan for Endoscopy. We will keep you updated.

For more information on the above or the Clinical pathways workstream in general please contact naomi.davies8@wales.nhs.uk

Who are we?

Clinical Pathways Core Team

Clinical Lead: Dr Sunil Dolwani
Managerial Lead: Dana Knoyle
Senior Project Manager: Naomi Davies



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