



BOWEL(Colorectal) CANCER STAGING

This brochure tells you about Bowel Cancer and Bowel Cancer staging.

What is Bowel Cancer?

Most bowel cancers develop in the large bowel (colon) or rectum. The cancer usually develops from tiny growths called polyps, however, only a small number of polyps become cancerous.

What is Bowel Cancer Staging?

If you have bowel cancer, your doctor will need to see if the cancer has spread (called staging). This helps the doctor plan your treatment. The imaging tests your doctor requests will depend on whether the cancer is in the colon or the rectum.

If you have colon cancer, your doctor may request one or more of the following:

- Abdominal CT scan
- Ultrasound of liver
- Chest x-ray

If you have rectal cancer, your doctor may request one or more of the following:

- Endoscopic rectal ultrasound
- CT of abdomen
- Ultrasound of liver
- MRI
- CT
- Chest x-ray

Please see www.bowelcanceraustralia.org or phone (02) 9926 5014 for further information.

Further Information

For more detailed information, please see [Inside Radiology](#), a resource produced especially for consumers by the [Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Radiologists](#).

If you would like to look at other relevant brochures, please see

- [Endoscopic rectal ultrasound](#)
- [Ultrasound](#)
- [Chest x-ray](#)
- [CT Scan](#)
- [MRI Scan](#)
- [Radiation risks of x-rays and scans](#)

Or log into the Diagnostic Imaging Pathways website - www.imagingpathways.health.wa.gov.au/includes/consumer.html

or

If you have questions or require any further information please contact your doctor or speak to the staff where you are going to have your procedure.

Consumer Participation

This information has been reviewed by representatives from the following groups:

- Aboriginal people
- People with disabilities
- Seniors
- CALD (Culturally and Linguistically Diverse)
- The Health Consumers' Council.

Feedback

The Division of Imaging Services, Royal Perth Hospital is committed to providing a friendly and professional service. If you would like to provide feedback on this information sheet, please send to:

Quality Coordinator
Imaging Services
Royal Perth Hospital
GPO Box X2213
Perth WA 6000

References

National Bowel Cancer Screening Program, Australian Government
Department of Health and Ageing - www.cancerscreening.gov.au

Bowel Cancer & Digestive Research, www.bowelcanceraustralia.org

Website

For more information go to www.imagingpathways.health.wa.gov.au

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