



DIAGNOSTIC IMAGING PATHWAYS
www.imagingpathways.health.wa.gov.au

BOWEL(Colorectal) CANCER SCREENING IN AUSTRALIA

This brochure tells you about Bowel Cancer and Bowel Cancer screening in Australia.

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.

Bowel cancer is one of the most common types of cancer in Australia, but can be treated successfully if it is found early enough. In order to try and reduce the number of people in Australia dying from bowel cancer, there is now a National Bowel Cancer Screening Program.

What is Bowel Cancer Screening?

Bowel cancer screening involves testing well people for bowel cancer. Between 1 January 2008 and 31 December 2010, all Australians turning 50, 55 or 65 years of age will be invited to be part of the National Bowel Cancer Screening Program. If you do not qualify for the government program you can purchase a test kit from your local chemist.

Please see www.cancerscreening.gov.au or call 1800 118 868 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 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.

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

Website

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

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