



UNDERSTANDING FECAL OCCULT BLOOD TEST (FOBT)

What is the Fecal Occult Blood Test?

The Fecal Occult Blood Test (FOBT) consists of the examination of stool samples from three consecutive bowel movements for traces of blood that are not visible to the naked eye.

According to the Report of the Ontario Expert Panel on Colorectal Cancer Screening (April 1999) an estimated two-thirds of colorectal cancers bleed over the course of one week and 90% will bleed at some point over several years. However, blood loss from adenomatous cancers tends to be intermittent and unevenly distributed. This can lead to false negative results through the FOBT.

Because there are many other causes of gastroenterological bleeding, a positive result may not indicate colon cancer. The Fecal Occult Blood Test is estimated to be between 30% and 50% effective in detecting curable colon cancers and 40% to 80% accurate in detecting all colon cancers, including the larger, more advanced and less treatable cancers that are more likely to bleed.

Patients who have a positive FOBT result need to be referred for a colonoscopy. This is an examination which allows a physician to visually search the large intestine for polyps or cancer. If polyps or cancer are found they will either be removed or biopsied. If the growth cannot be removed, then preparations for a resection of the colon can be made to remove it.

More information

For more information about protecting and enhancing your digestive health, please visit www.CDHF.ca

DONATE

ABOUT US

YES! I want to donate to the Canadian Digestive Health Foundation

Please accept my donation to support:

- Canadian Digestive Health Foundation Programs as needed
- Canadian Digestive Health Foundation Endowment Fund

My donation is:

- Personal In honour of In memory of
_____ (person's name)

- Yes, please send notification of my gift to:

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Donate by Cheque:

- I have enclosed a cheque for \$ _____
- I have enclosed a blank cheque marked VOID and authorize the Canadian Digestive Health Foundation to deduct \$ _____ from my account on the 28th day of each month

Signature: _____ Date: ____ / ____ / ____ (dd/mm/yy)

Donate by Credit Card:

I would like to make a donation using my credit card. Please charge my

- VISA MasterCard
- \$ 100 \$ 250 \$ 500 \$ 1000 Other \$ _____.

I want to support the Canadian Digestive Health Foundation with a monthly donation charged to my credit card on the 28th day of each month. My signature below is authorization for this transaction.

- \$ 250 \$ 100 \$ 75 Other \$ _____ per month

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- Please send me information about protecting and improving my digestive health.

Over 20 million Canadians suffer from digestive disorders every year. The Canadian Digestive Health Foundation believes this is unnecessary and unacceptable.

We reduce suffering and improve quality of life by empowering Canadians with trusted, up to date, science-based information about digestive health and disease.

As the Foundation of the Canadian Association of Gastroenterology, we work directly with leading physicians, scientists, and other health care professionals to help you understand and take control of your digestive health with confidence and optimism.

Through research and public education, we aim to:

 <p>REDUCE the incidence and prevalence of digestive disorders</p>	 <p>IMPROVE understanding of digestive health issues</p>
 <p>SUPPORT those suffering from digestive disorders</p>	 <p>ENHANCE quality of life for those living with digestive disorders</p>

Request for support

The Canadian Digestive Health Foundation is a national charity governed by a volunteer board of directors. We rely on donations from the public and the generosity of our partners to develop and deliver our programs. Please consider including our Foundation as one of your chosen charities.

Contact us/Donate to

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