

Patient FAQs: bowel scope screening

General questions

4. Is bowel scope stopping during the coronavirus outbreak?

Bowel scope screening is being rescheduled due to coronavirus and social distancing guidance. We will start to reschedule appointments when it is safe to do so.

5. Can I get another appointment when screening starts again? How will you know to invite me?

We will start to reschedule appointments when it is safe to offer them again. We are making sure we have details of everyone whose appointments need to be rescheduled.

Invitations

6. Is my GP practice included in bowel scope screening?

At the moment we are not offering bowel scope screening due to coronavirus and social distancing guidance. We will start to reschedule appointments for people who are waiting, when it is safe to do so.

7. I am 55 and have not been invited for bowel scope screening, when can I expect my invite?

At the moment we are not offering bowel scope screening due to coronavirus and social distancing guidance. We will start to reschedule appointments when it is safe to do so.

Bowel preparation – Enema

8. I have an appointment for bowel scope, but the enema has not arrived in the post. What should I do?

We cannot carry out bowel scope screening at the moment due to coronavirus and social distancing guidance. We will start to reschedule appointments when it is safe to do so. We will send you another enema when we reschedule your appointment. If your enema arrives in the meantime, **do not use it**. Please dispose of it with your normal household waste.

9. I have received an enema in the post, but my bowel scope appointment has been cancelled, what should I do with it?

We cannot carry out bowel scope screening at the moment due to coronavirus and social distancing guidance. We will start to reschedule appointments when it is safe to do so. **Do not use the enema you have**, please dispose of it with your normal household waste. We will send you another enema when we reschedule your appointment.

Procedure

10. I need a colonoscopy following my bowel scope screening test, but it has been cancelled. What will happen now?

We cannot carry out screening colonoscopies at the moment due to coronavirus and social distancing guidance. We will start to reschedule appointments when it is safe to do so. The screening centre will contact you when we are able to do this. If you have been given or sent bowel preparation, **please do not take it**. Please keep your bowel preparation in a safe place and we will let you know when to use it.

If you are concerned about any symptoms of bowel cancer, please contact your GP.

Symptoms include:

- blood in your stool (faeces)
- looser stool, pooing more often and/or constipation
- a pain or lump in your abdomen (tummy)
- feeling more tired than usual for some time
- losing weight for no obvious reason.

11. I have been contacted by a specialist screening practitioner (SSP) and received my bowel preparation as I need a colonoscopy after my bowel scope test,

but my appointment has been cancelled. What should I do with the bowel preparation?

Please **do not take the bowel preparation** that we have given or sent to you. We cannot carry out colonoscopies at the moment due to coronavirus and social distancing guidance. We will start to reschedule appointments when it is safe to do so. Please keep your bowel preparation in a safe place and we will let you know when to use it.