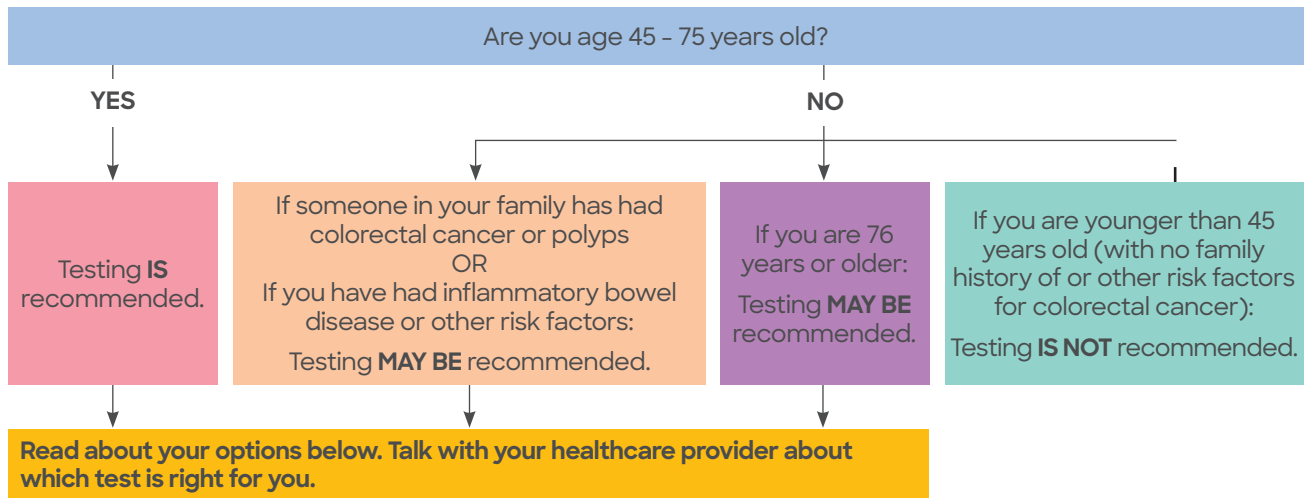


Choosing the right colon cancer screening test



Stool test*

Key facts

- Reduces death from colorectal cancer by detecting cancers early
- Safe, available and easy to complete
- Done on your own at home
- Finds cancer early by finding blood in the stool
- Finds most cancers early when done every year

Things to consider

- The test may be positive even if you do not have polyps or cancer in the colon.
- If the test is positive, you will have a colonoscopy to look for problems.
- In-home testing requires collecting a small stool sample using the test kit provided, then mailing or taking it to your doctor's office or lab for processing.

*Stool test = Guaiac Fecal Occult Blood Test (FOBT) or Fecal Immunochemical Test (FIT)

Colonoscopy

Key facts

- Reduces the risk of death by 60% by detecting colorectal cancer early
- Can prevent cancer by removing polyps (or abnormal growths in the colon) during the test
- Looks at the entire colon
- Finds most cancers or polyps that are there when the test is done
- Done at least every 10 years or as recommended by your healthcare provider

Things to consider

- Stomach pain, cramping or bloating is possible before, during or after the test.
- The test is done at a hospital or clinic, and you will probably receive light sedation so that you are comfortable.
- You will need someone to drive you home after the test and may need to take the whole day off to rest.
- You will take medicine to clear out your colon the day before. You will also only drink clear liquids. This can cause pain, bloating and diarrhea while your colon clears.
- There is a small risk of serious complications like bleeding or perforated colon.

Please ask your healthcare provider about other screening tests that are available. For a physician referral, call **1.844.BSW.DOCS** or visit **BSWHealth.com**.

