



To find out more, call the **FREE** NHS Helpline on
0800 707 6060
 or visit www.leeds.gov.uk/bowelcancer



your **FREE**
 bowel cancer
 screening test.

A guide to your
NHS bowel
 screening

Completing your NHS bowel cancer screening test is important – it could save your life.

The test is free and straightforward for you to use. It is done in the privacy of your own home and the results will be returned to you quickly and discreetly.

This leaflet answers the most common questions about the test. If you have any other questions, call the **FREE NHS helpline** on **0800 707 6060** or visit **www.leeds.gov.uk/bowelcancer** for further information.

Why should I complete the test?

You may be surprised to learn that **bowel cancer is the UK's second biggest cancer killer.**

80% of people who develop bowel cancer are 60 and over.

Early treatment makes a difference.

The screening process helps detect bowel cancer at an early stage, before people experience noticeable symptoms, when treatment is more likely to be effective.

Who will receive the test?

Men and women aged 60 to 69 registered with a GP.

Screening is important the older you get as 80% of people who develop bowel cancer are 60 and over.

How do I get my screening test?

You will be sent your screening test automatically by post.

Make sure that your GP has your correct address.

How much does the test cost?

The test is **FREE.**

Doing the test is free, quick and easy. It is done in the privacy of your own home and the results will be returned to you quickly and discreetly.

What do I need to do?

Look out for the test in the post - don't ignore it or dismiss it as junk mail. If you're aged 60 to 69 and registered with a GP the test will be posted to you automatically.

Read and follow the instructions.

The test is straightforward to do. You'll need to collect three sets of stool samples over different days and then return the test to be processed. The test comes with a clear set of instructions – make sure you read and follow them. A FREEPOST envelope will be included to return the test for processing.

What happens next?

You will get the results within two weeks.

Once you've completed and posted it, the results will be returned to you within two weeks. The test looks for blood in your stools. It does not diagnose bowel cancer but the results will show whether further investigation is needed.

How do I find out more?

If you have any other questions, call the **FREE NHS helpline** on **0800 707 6060** or visit **www.leeds.gov.uk/bowelcancer** for further information.

Alternatively, please speak to your local GP or pharmacist.

If you have access to the internet there's also a very useful short video of how to use the test at **www.cancerscreening.nhs.uk/bowel/faq06.html**