



NED FIT dashboard information sheet

About FIT

The Faecal Immunochemical Test (FIT) detects non-visible blood in stool samples. FIT has a high sensitivity for the detection of colorectal cancers and allows for the identification of patients in whom the risk is low, and thus its use is recommended in the triage of patients with suspected colorectal cancer¹. The NHS Cancer Programme has previously collected data through the Cancer Alliance Quarterly Assurance process to measure FIT use in secondary care. This data collection was always meant to be time limited until a national solution could be identified to reduce the burden on providers.

The UK National Endoscopy Database (NED) collects real-time data from electronic endoscopy reports across the United Kingdom. The current iteration of NED (NEDi2.1) collects FIT values entered by endoscopists. At present ~70% of NHS services in England upload to NEDi2.1, with numbers increasing as services move away from legacy reporting systems.

The NED-FIT dashboard

The national endoscopy database collects a Faecal Immunochemical Test (FIT) values in real time from electronic endoscopy reports across the United Kingdom. Together with the NHS England and the National Cancer Programme, the NED team explored a metric to track the use of FIT in secondary care. The following metric was proposed:

The percentage of *symptomatic* colonoscopies informed by a positive FIT ($\geq 10\mu\text{gHb/g}$).

Colonoscopies can be broadly categorised by indication² as:

- Therapeutic
- Bowel Cancer Screening
- Abnormal prior investigation
- High-cancer-risk surveillance
- Evaluation, diagnosis or surveillance of inflammatory bowel disease (IBD)
- Symptomatic
- Only FIT recorded

Routine, urgent and urgent suspected cancer (“2-week-wait”) procedures all predominantly fall within the Symptomatic category and occupy the same niche of colonoscopic service provision. It is argued that all symptomatic procedures benefit from a prior FIT to establish their necessity and urgency.

Before launch, performance with this metric was explored using NED data from January to June 2025 inclusive. In that period, 41.9% of procedures were labelled as “FIT not done”. Of those with a recorded FIT, the rate of compliance with the new metric was 79.5%. The NHS Cancer Programme has proposed a target of 85% of symptomatic colonoscopies being informed by a FIT $\geq 10\mu\text{gHb/g}$. When just examining procedures with a recorded FIT, 37.1% of NHS services met this target.



Display and Access

The NED FIT dashboard was created, by JAG fellow, Dr Keith Pohl, in agreement with the NHS Cancer programme, to use populated NED data to report performance of the metric. This contains key displays:

- **‘FIT $\geq 10\text{ugHb/g}$ in symptomatic colonoscopy’** – Displaying performance of the primary metric with the option to compare nationally.
- **‘FIT bands’** – Displaying a breakdown of FIT reporting, by showing percentages of symptomatic colonoscopies in each of the following FIT bands:
 - FIT not done
 - FIT done, result awaited
 - FIT negative, no value recorded
 - FIT $< 10\text{ugHb/g}$
 - FIT positive, no value recorded
 - FIT $10\text{-}100\text{ugHb/g}$
 - FIT $> 100\text{ugHb/g}$

These dashboard features are accessible for national and regional leads, cancer alliance teams, and trust leads. Trust leads also have an additional page to view endoscopist level reporting

- **‘FIT reporting by endoscopist’** – Displaying the percentage of symptomatic colonoscopies that each one has recorded as “FIT not done”. This will allow them to highlight endoscopists that are not entering FIT results onto endoscopy reports and provide targeted education.

We recognise that currently, not all services are reporting via the NEDi2.1 schema, which captures FIT score. JAG and NHS England are encouraging all sites to upgrade to their latest available software.



FAQ's

What is the NED FIT dashboard?

The NHS Cancer Programme currently collects data through the Cancer Alliance Quarterly Assurance process to measure faecal immunochemical test (FIT) use in secondary care. This data collection was always meant to be time limited until a national solution could be identified to reduce the burden on providers.

The National Endoscopy Database (NED) collects real-time data from electronic endoscopy reports across the United Kingdom. The current iteration of NED (NEDi2.1) collects FIT values entered by endoscopists. At present ~70% of NHS services in England upload to NEDi2.1, with numbers increasing as services move away from legacy reporting systems.

The NHS Cancer Programme has been working with the NED team to explore a national metric to track the use of FIT in secondary care, and have proposed the following:

The percentage of *symptomatic* colonoscopies informed by a positive FIT ($\geq 10\mu\text{gHb/g}$).

It is felt that colonoscopies can be broadly categorised by indication² as:

Therapeutic, Bowel Cancer Screening, Abnormal prior investigation, High-cancer-risk surveillance, Evaluation, diagnosis or surveillance of inflammatory bowel disease (IBD), Symptomatic, Only FIT recorded.

Routine, urgent and urgent suspected cancer ("2-week-wait") procedures all predominantly fall within the Symptomatic category and occupy the same niche of colonoscopic service provision. It is argued that all symptomatic procedures benefit from a prior FIT to establish their necessity and urgency.

The NHS Cancer Programme is now using an interactive dashboard populated using NED data to report performance with this new metric. The aim of the dashboard is to allow auditing of FIT reporting, and targeted education.

What is the need for the FIT dashboard?

Current performance with this metric has been explored using NED data from January to June 2025 inclusive. In that period, 41.9% of procedures were labelled as "FIT not done". Of those with a recorded FIT, the rate of compliance with the new metric was 79.5%. The NHS Cancer Programme has proposed a target of 85% of symptomatic colonoscopies being informed by a FIT $\geq 10\mu\text{gHb/g}$. When just examining procedures with a recorded FIT, 37.1% of NHS services met this target.

How do I interpret the data on the FIT dashboard?

At present, there is significant variation in the reporting of FIT results by endoscopists. Although ~40% of procedures are labelled as FIT not done, closer analysis shows that some endoscopists report a FIT value for almost all of their symptomatic procedures whereas others do so rarely.

It will take time for services to disseminate to their endoscopists the importance of FIT reporting for all procedures (not just 2-week-wait). This is essential to allow accurate analysis of performance. To



facilitate this, service leads at all organisations will be able to access the dashboard on NED. This dashboard has three sections:

FIT $\geq 10\text{ugHb/g}$ in symptomatic colonoscopy

This section will show performance with the primary metric. Organisations will be able to view their performance over any date range, or over their last x number of procedures, compared to the rest of the organisations uploading to NED.

FIT bands

This section will show a breakdown of an organisations FIT reporting by showing the percentage of symptomatic colonoscopies in each of the following FIT bands, compared to the rest of the NHS as a whole:

- FIT not done
- FIT done, result awaited
- FIT negative, no value recorded
- FIT $< 10\text{ugHb/g}$
- FIT positive, no value recorded
- FIT $10\text{-}100\text{ugHb/g}$
- FIT $> 100\text{ugHb/g}$

FIT reporting by endoscopists

Service leads will be able to see a breakdown of their organisation's endoscopists, showing the percentage of symptomatic colonoscopies that each one has recorded as "FIT not done". This will allow them to highlight endoscopists that are not entering FIT results onto endoscopy reports and provide targeted education.

Sections 1 and 2 will also be accessible by ICBs, Cancer Alliances and Regional Leads, with data visible at higher levels as well as at the organisational level. Those with higher-level access will **not** be able to see individual endoscopist FIT reporting (Section 3).

Who can access the NED FIT dashboard?

The FIT Dashboard will be able to be accessed by four sets of users: Service leads, ICB regional leads, Cancer alliances, National leads

The dashboard is broken down into three sections. Each will have various access and data visibility depending on the user's access.

FIT $\geq 10\text{ugHb/g}$ in symptomatic colonoscopy – accessible to all

This section will show performance with the primary metric. Organisations will be able to view their performance over any date range, or over their last x number of procedures, compared to the rest of the organisations uploading to NED.

FIT bands – accessible to all



This section will show a breakdown of an organisations FIT reporting by showing the percentage of symptomatic colonoscopies in each of the following FIT bands, compared to the rest of the NHS as a whole

FIT reporting by endoscopists – Only available to service leads

Service leads will be able to see a breakdown of their organisation’s endoscopists, showing the percentage of symptomatic colonoscopies that each one has recorded as “FIT not done”. This will allow them to highlight endoscopists that are not entering FIT results onto endoscopy reports and provide targeted education.

Sections 1 and 2 will be accessible by ICBs, Cancer Alliances and Regional Leads, with data visible at those higher levels as well as at the organisational level. Those with higher-level access will **not** be able to see individual endoscopist FIT reporting (Section 3).

Endoscopist specific data is only available to service leads that have existing NED dashboard access.

How does NED capture FIT data?

Working with NHS England, FIT scores were added to the National Endoscopy Database captures in version NEDi2.1. A service will only be reporting FIT scores if they have been updated by their supplier to the latest NEDi2.1 version.

All reporting systems on NEDi2.1 allow for the capture of FIT results entered by the endoscopist. There will be minor variation between suppliers. To cater for a number of ways FIT is reported to endoscopists, the NED field supports several different formats for FIT values:

- Absolute value (e.g. 45ugHb/g)
- Range (e.g. <10ugHb/g)
- Qualitative (e.g. FIT positive but value unknown)

NED will also capture if an endoscopist records the FIT result as “Unknown” or “Not done”, however this should only be entered if no test has been done.

Local recording of the FIT score and upload will vary depending on your Endoscopy Reporting supplier, and if you are unsure how this is sent through to NED from your service, you should contact your supplier in first instance.



References

1. Monahan K.J., Davies M.D., Abulafi M., *Faecal immunochemical testing (FIT) in patients with signs or symptoms of suspected colorectal cancer (CRC): a joint guideline from the Association of Coloproctology of Great Britain and Ireland (ACPGBI) and the British Society of Gastroenterology (BSG)*. *Gut* 2022 ;71:1939–1962. doi:10.1136/gutjnl-2022-327985
2. Beaton D., Mohamed M., Sharp L., et al. *Real-World Performance of FIT Triage for Symptomatic Colonoscopy: Analysis of the UK National Endoscopy Database (NED)*. *Aliment Pharmacol Ther* 2026:apt.70537. Doi: 10.1111/apt.70537.