

National Bowel Cancer Screening Program

Clinical audit software guide

About this guide

There are a number of different clinical audit software tools used by general practice clinics in Australia for quality improvement and patient care. This guide provides information about how each of the most commonly used audit software tools can be used to audit a clinic's patients' bowel cancer screening participation.

Guides for auditing patient bowel cancer screening participation rates

PenCS CAT4

Refer: CAT Recipes - Bowel Cancer Screening Participation Rate

<https://help.pencs.com.au/display/CR/Bowel%2BCancer%2BScreening%2BParticipation%2BRate>

POLAR GP

Eastern Melbourne PHN (EMPHN) has published a detailed walkthrough that outlines the steps to identify patients due for bowel cancer screening within the POLAR GP system:

<https://www.emphn.org.au/wp-content/uploads/archive/files/EMPHN-POLAR-Walkthrough-Bowel-Screening.pdf>

Primary Sense

Practice Assist has produced this guide for providing reports for bowel and or breast cancer screening:

<https://www.practiceassist.com.au/PracticeAssist/media/Toolkit/Primary%20Sense/Bowel-and-Breast-Cancer-Screening-PS-Reports-PA-User-Guide-230519.pdf>

Alternatively, Gold Coast Primary Health Network has produced this video to identify patients without evidence of bowel and or breast cancer screening: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WLgr3rginKc>

Cubiko

Use filters and custom reports to identify patients aged 45–74 who are due for screening. Apply filters to focus on active patients within this age group and exclude those who have completed screening within the recommended timeframe. Once you've identified the target patient cohort, use the export function to generate a list. This list can be used for recall processes, sending reminders, or other follow-up actions.

Best Practice

Use the database search utility to search for patients who have an iFOBT, FOBT or bowel result in their record for a specific date range.

The following custom SQL query looks for items in the Investigations and Correspondence In sections of the patient record for results in a set date range:

```
SELECT *
FROM BPS_Patients
WHERE StatusText = 'Active'
and internalid in(select internalid from INVESTIGATIONS where testname in('fobt', 'ifobt',
'%bowel%') and recordstatus =1
AND reportdate >= '20230412' -- Set the start date range as yyyyymmdd
and reportdate <= '20250521') -- Set the end date range as yyyyymmdd
or internalid in(select internalid from CORRESPONDENCEIN where SUBJECT in('fobt', 'ifobt',
'%bowel%') and recordstatus =1
AND created >= '20250101' -- Set the start date range as yyyyymmdd
and created <= '20250522') -- Set the end date range as yyyyymmdd
ORDER BY surname, firstname
```

– All entries stored in investigations and correspondence in with a testname or subject like iFobt, Fobt or %bowel% that were created in a set date range.

Click here to view the instructions on running a custom SQL query:

<https://kb.bpssoftware.net/support/DatabaseSearch.htm>

Medical Director

Go to the Search tab and create a patient group using relevant search filters. Save the search to create a group of patients who match these criteria. In the Reporting section, you can generate a custom report that includes bowel cancer screening participation. After running the report, you can export the data to a spreadsheet or a CSV file for further analysis, especially if you want to track trends or generate specific notifications for patients who have not participated in the screening.

If available in your version of MedicalDirector, use the Clinical Audit tool to track and audit specific clinical activities, including bowel cancer screening.