**Click or tap here to enter text.**

**Colorectal Cancer Screening and Documentation Policy**

|  |
| --- |
| **Purpose** |

To improve colorectal cancer screening and surveillance at Click or tap here to enter text.. The main purpose of colorectal cancer screening is to detect occult or hidden blood that may be present in the stool. Research shows that a recommendation from a healthcare provider is the most powerful single factor in a patient’s decision about whether to obtain cancer screening.

Therefore, let this policy demonstrate that the healthcare providers serving this clinic believe so strongly in colorectal cancer screening that we assure, through a standing order, each and every patient between the ages of 45 and 75 are offered this screening.

|  |
| --- |
| **Definitions** |

* LPN – Licensed Practical Nurse
* RN – Registered Nurse
* iFOBT – Immunochemical fecal occult blood test
* FIT – Fecal immunochemical test
* EHR – Electronic Health Record

|  |
| --- |
| **Policy** |

Under the standing order and policy, LPNs and RNs with proper training may order an iFOBT (FIT) hemoccult test to screen for colorectal cancer for patients who meet the criteria for average risk patients. For patients found to be high risk, the provider will provide additional assessment and referral for colonoscopy.

|  |
| --- |
| **Procedures** |

1. Healthcare provider or nurse identifies patients ages 45-75 meeting screening eligibility for colorectal cancer using the screening algorithm. *See attached algorithm*.
2. Average risk patients: Perform FIT test annually; if positive, diagnosis by colonoscopy
3. High risk patients: Refer to provider for closer evaluation and colonoscopy
4. Screen for contraindications such as hemorrhoid bleeding, menstrual bleeding, symptoms suggesting colorectal cancer or patients on Warfarin
5. For patients refusing testing, provide education and document
6. Order iFOBT (FIT) hemoccult test.
7. Explain procedure to patient to return completed test kit and document the kit was given to patient in EHR.
8. Clinic staff will document all colorectal cancer screening test in the EHR as a procedure code appropriate to the testing method used.
9. [The nurse] will communicate with patients regarding test results. All positive tests require additional follow-up.

|  |
| --- |
| **References** |

* National Association of Community Health Centers
* Colorectal Cancer Society

|  |
| --- |
| **Attachment** |

* CRC Screening Algorithm Ages 45-75

A picture containing timeline

Description automatically generated