



**BC Cancer Agency**

CARE + RESEARCH

*An agency of the Provincial Health Services Authority*

### **Update from the Colon Screening Program**

Submitted by Shelley Dosso, Regional Manager, Colon Screening Program

In 2015/2016 we have performed over 3000 screening colonoscopies in the South Island. The CSP receives an average of 95 referrals per week. We send back 15-20% of the referrals due to patients not being appropriate for the CSP. Examples are patients who are not yet due for screening, have complex medical issues, or who have had a FIT test done inappropriately. The most recent guidelines are available at <http://www.screeningbc.ca/Colon/>. Please do not order FIT tests on symptomatic patients. The FIT test is a screening tool not a diagnostic tool.

The CSP has no waitlist. If your patient is ready, willing and able, we can have a colonoscopy arranged within two to three weeks of receipt of referral.

Remember that there are two boxes on the Outpatient Lab Requisition. One is a direct referral to the Colon Screening Program. Please only check this box if you intend to refer a patient to the CSP. Do not use this box for complicated patients that need to be referred directly to GI Central Referrals.

If you have any questions that are not answered on the CSP website, please call us at 250-519-3500 local 32981.