NHS
Black Country Pathology Services

Black Country Adult Faecal Calprotectin in Primary care – Diagnostic Pathway

Red flags are:

- Unintentional weight loss
- Iron deficiency anaemia
- Abdominal/rectal mass
- Rectal bleeding

Request faecal calprotectin if:

Age 16 years - 45 years
&
History of diarrhoea > 6 weeks
&
Absence of red flags

For age >45 years &/or presence of red flags refer to NICE NG12 and where appropriate consider FastTrack referral pathway

https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng12/chapter/1-Recommendations-organised-by-site-of-cancer#lower-gastrointestinal-tract-cancers

Faecal calprotectin

<150 µg/g

Not indicative of GI inflammation. Inflammatory bowel disease unlikely. Consider management as IBS – see NICE CG61

150-250 µg/g

Intermediate result

Repeat after 4-6 weeks.

NSAID should be stopped for at least 2 weeks prior to sample collection.

If repeat result is indeterminate suggest refer to gastroenterology

<150 µg/g

Not indicative of GI inflammation. Inflammatory bowel disease unlikely. Consider management as IBS – see NICE CG61 https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/cg61

150-250 µg/g

>250 µg/g

Indicative of active GI inflammation. Refer to Gastroenterology.

>250 µg/g

Indicative of active GI inflammation. Refer to Gastroenterology.