

Freedom of Information Request: Our Reference CTMUHB_308_22

You asked:

Do you have a clear pathway in primary care for the investigation of non-cancer related lower gastrointestinal symptoms that include the use of faecal calprotectin tests? If so, I would appreciate if you are able to share any details you may have.

Our response:

In primary care the assessment of non-cancer related lower GI symptoms is undertaken by a suitably qualified professional. Depending on the presentation this may include blood tests, stool sample testing, diagnostic imaging, direct access endoscopy or referral to a hospital specialist. The choice of initial investigations would be guided by national guidelines, such as NICE and also best practice.

Faecal calprotectin measurement is currently available to primary care in Rhondda, Cynon, Taff and Merthyr. There are plans to extend this to Bridgend as the laboratory services are provided by Swansea Bay University Health Board.