

# Bulletin



Bulletin Number 4471	Date April 1, 2008	Direct inquiries to Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care Processing Office (address below)
Distribution Physicians, Hospitals, Clinics and Laboratories		

**Subject: ColonCancerCheck Fecal Occult Blood Testing (FOBT)**

1. Revision to OHIP Laboratory Requisition Form
2. Amendments to Ontario Regulation 552 made under the *Health Insurance Act*
3. New Fee Code: L179 ColonCancerCheck FOBT
4. Amendments to Ontario Regulation 682 made under the *Laboratory and Specimen Collection Centre Licensing Act*

**Background**

The Minister of Health and Long-Term Care on January 23, 2007, announced the launch of Canada's first province-wide community-based screening program for colorectal cancer. The ColonCancerCheck program will commence on April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2008.

Colorectal cancer is the most common cause of cancer death in non-smokers in Ontario, significantly exceeding breast and prostate cancers. Colorectal cancer is highly treatable if detected early through screening. The probability of curing colorectal cancer is 90 per cent when it is detected early. The screen-eligible population for colorectal cancer includes all Ontarians aged 50 years and older (approximately 2.8 million people). However, nearly 80 per cent of the screen eligible population in Ontario has not been screened for colorectal cancer. Currently, only 10 per cent of Ontarians aged 50-74 years are screened using the most widely available tool, the fecal occult blood test (FOBT).

**1. Revision to OHIP Laboratory Requisition Form:**

The Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care is implementing changes to the content and layout of the existing OHIP Laboratory Requisition Form (4482-84). A blank copy of the revised form (4422-84) is attached for your information. These changes are designed to incorporate a separate requisition box for ColonCancerCheck FOBT, appearing on the bottom right of the form. Physicians and Nurse Practitioners are required to use this selection in order to identify that the test requested is a ColonCancerCheck FOBT.

Providers can continue to use existing supplies of the unrevised version of the Laboratory Requisition form for all other tests that are ordered. The revised Requisition form is to be used when ordering the ColonCancerCheck FOBT.

**Office locations**

<b>Barrie</b> 34 Simcoe St. Suite 102 L4N 6T4	<b>Etobicoke</b> 3300 Bloor St. W., Unit 142 M8X 2W8	<b>Hamilton</b> 119 King St. W P.O. Box 2280, Stn. A L8N 4C8	<b>Kenora</b> 220-808 Robertson St. P9N 1X9	<b>Kingston</b> 1055 Princess St. P.O. Box 9000 K7L 5A9	<b>Kitchener</b> 1400 Weber St. E. Unit B2 N2A 3Z8	<b>London</b> 217 York St., 5th Floor P.O. Box 5700 Station A N6A 4L6
<b>Mississauga</b> 201 City Centre Dr. P.O. Box 7020, Stn. A L5A 3M1	<b>Newmarket</b> 465 Davis Dr. Unit 108 L3Y 8T2	<b>North Bay</b> 101-447 McKeown Ave. P1B 9S9	<b>North York</b> 4400 Dufferin St N M3H 6A8	<b>Oakville</b> Oakville Town Centre II 220 North Service Rd. W. L6M 2Y3	<b>Oshawa</b> Exec. Tower, Oshawa Centre. 419 King St. W. P.O. Box 635 L1H 8L4	<b>Ottawa</b> Fuller Building 75 Albert Street K1P 5Y9
<b>Owen Sound</b> 981 2nd Avenue E. N4K 2H5	<b>Peterborough</b> 550 Lansdowne St. W. K9J 8J8	<b>St. Catharines</b> 301 St. Paul St. Mezzanine Level L2R 3M8	<b>Sarnia</b> 452 Christina St. N. N7T 5W4	<b>Sault Ste. Marie</b> Roberta Bondar Place 70 Foster Dr., Ste. 100 P6A 6V4	<b>Scarborough</b> 2063 Lawrence Ave. E. M1R 2Z4	<b>Sudbury</b> 199 Larch St., Suite 801 P3E 5R1
<b>Thunder Bay</b> 435 James St. S. , Suite 113 P7E 6T1	<b>Timmins</b> 38 Pine St. N., Suite 110 P4N 6K6	<b>Toronto</b> 47 Sheppard Ave. E. Suite 417 M2N 7E7	<b>Windsor</b> 1427 Ouellette Ave. N8X 1K1	<b>Head Office</b> P.O. Box 48 Kingston, ON K7L 5J3		

Please note that when ordering a ColonCancerCheck FOBT no other tests can be ordered on the same Laboratory Requisition. This is necessary because of the participant's postage paid mail back option and will assist in reducing the potential laboratory documentation testing rejects. If other tests need to be ordered for a patient, an additional Requisition form is to be completed.

You may continue to order a non-program FOBT by selecting the "FOBT" selection box, to the left on the bottom right hand corner of the revised requisition form.

## 2. Amendments to Ontario Regulation 552 made under the *Health Insurance Act*.

The Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care has added the following to the Schedule of Benefits for Laboratory Services:

- a) Adding the ColonCancerCheck Fecal Occult Blood Test (FOBT) as an insured laboratory service
- b) Establishing the conditions for community laboratories to perform the ColonCancerCheck FOBT as an insured service, effective April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2008, in support of the objectives of the Colorectal Cancer Screening Program.

In addition, the ColonCancerCheck FOBT has been added to the list of tests in Schedule 22, in order to ensure that the ColonCancerCheck FOBT will be an insured service when requested by Nurse Practitioners.

These changes are prescribed in Ontario Regulation 552.

Attached is a copy of the Addendum dated January 14, 2008 (effective April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2008) to the Schedule of Benefits for Laboratory Services.

## 3. New Fee Code: L179 ColonCancerCheck FOBT

As set out in the Addendum, a new fee code for the ColonCancerCheck FOBT will be introduced to the Schedule of Benefits for Laboratory Services effective April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2008. The new code of *L179 ColonCancerCheck FOBT* will be used when submitting an OHIP claim for ColonCancerCheck FOBT by community laboratories who are signatories to the Participation Agreement with the Ministry under the Laboratory Services Funding Framework Agreement for the Colorectal Cancer Screening Program.

The *L700 Patient Documentation and Specimen Collection Fee* is **not** applicable when claiming a L179 ColonCancerCheck FOBT.

Only enrolled community laboratories can claim L179 ColonCancerCheck FOBT; community laboratories not enrolled in the Program who submit a claim using the L179 code will have that claim rejected.

The fee code of *L181 Occult Blood* will continue to be used for non-ColonCancerCheck FOBT.

## 4. Amendments to Ontario Regulation 682 made under the *Laboratory and Specimen Collection Centre Licensing Act*

Ontario Regulation 682 has been amended to provide, as a condition of a laboratory's license, that it could only perform the ColonCancerCheck FOBT if it has entered into a Participation Agreement with the Ministry under the Laboratory Services Funding Framework Agreement for the Colorectal Cancer Screening Program. In addition, the ColonCancerCheck FOBT has been added to the list of tests that Nurse Practitioners are authorized to order in Appendix C.

Attachments:

- Addendum dated January 14, 2008 (effective April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2008) to the Schedule of Benefits for Laboratory Services
- OHIP Laboratory Requisition Form (4482-84)

**ADDENDUM DATED JANUARY 14, 2008 (EFFECTIVE APRIL 1<sup>ST</sup>, 2008)**  
**TO THE SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS FOR LABORATORY SERVICES**

**Effective April 1, 2008, the Schedule of Benefits for Laboratory Services is changed as follows:**

The following test is added to the Schedule:

F.S.	Code	Description	LMS Units
L179		ColonCancerCheck FOBT	0

**The following paragraph is added to the Preamble of the Schedule:**

**Preamble, Paragraph #32:** *L179 ColonCancerCheck FOBT can only be claimed by laboratories that have entered into a Participation Agreement with the Ministry under the Laboratory Services Funding Framework Agreement for the Colorectal Cancer Screening Program. L700 Patient Documentation and Specimen Collection Fee is not applicable and should not be claimed for L179 ColonCancerCheck FOBT.*