

## Lower GI & Iron Deficiency Anaemia Pathway Feb 2025

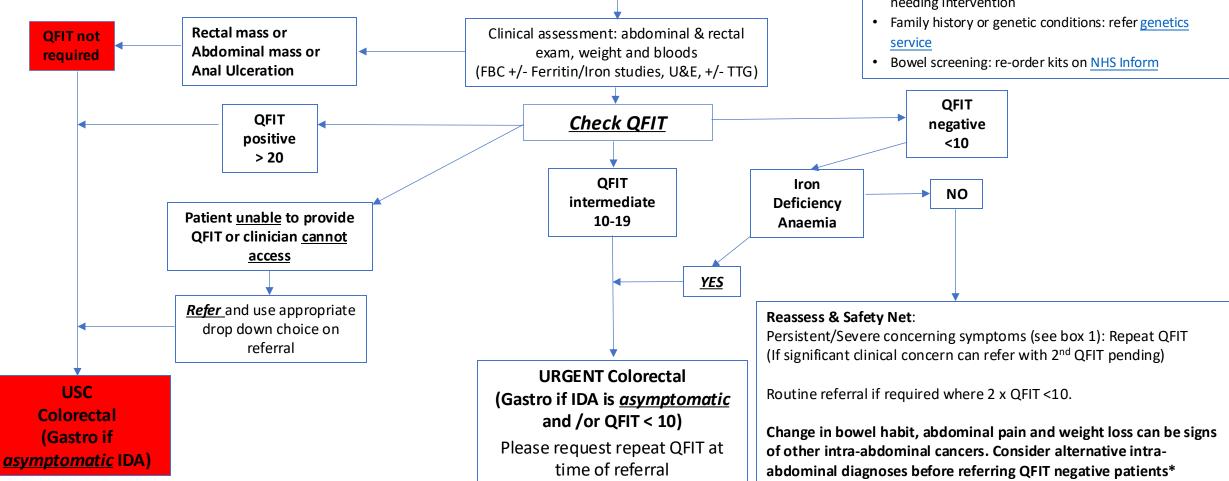
This pathway is based on the Scottish Referral Guidelines for Suspected Cancer and Scottish Government's National QFIT guidance. See www.cancerreferral.scot.nhs.uk for details.

## New lower GI symptoms concerning for significant disease including:

- Persistent (≥4 weeks) change in bowel habit, particularly to looser or more frequent stool.
- · Blood mixed through the stool.
- Repeated anorectal bleeding without an obvious anorectal cause.
- Iron Deficiency Anaemia (confirmed by ferritin/iron studies).
- Persistent abdominal pain (>4 weeks) with weight loss (>5%)

## QFIT is <u>NOT</u> indicated <u>in absence of other concerning</u> <u>lower GI symptoms</u> for patients who present with:

- Acute symptoms e.g. gastroenteritis or acute diverticulitis
- Long-standing & unchanged symptoms e.g. constipation
- Weight loss\* (consider non-specific symptoms pathway)
- Thrombocytosis\*
- Haemorrhoids, anal fissures or warts: non-USC referral if needing intervention



Include PERFORMANCE STATUS in referrals

\*See Scottish Referral Guidelines for Suspected Cancer