

## Greetings from the Maine CDC Colorectal Cancer Control Program

We are pleased to provide you with the enclosed information which explains the importance of **Fecal Immunochemical Tests (FIT)** as an effective way to screen for colorectal cancer. FIT is a screening option that allows patients to procure samples in the comfort of their homes and at their convenience. FIT is a great way to increase colorectal cancer screening rates in your practice. FIT is convenient, easy-to-use and can help overcome many common barriers to screening.

In short, the FIT is ideal for your patients age 50 and older who are at average risk for colorectal cancer. Note, however, that those with a personal or family history of hyperplastic, adenomatous or malignant polyposis should be strongly encouraged to undergo screening with colonoscopy. And all adults with ongoing gastrointestinal and bowel issues should be given a more complete diagnostic workup.

We hope you find the materials useful in your practice and encourage you to go to **[www.screenmaine.org](http://www.screenmaine.org)** to review additional provider resources for increasing colorectal cancer screening rates in your practice.

Sincerely,

Maine CDC Colorectal Cancer Control Program

*We thank the Florida and South Dakota Departments of Health for permission to use elements from their FIT materials in designing ours.*

