

FECAL OCCULT BLOOD TESTING (FOBT) for

## COLORECTAL HEALTH

- **RECOMMEND** an annual FOBT for average risk Native American men and women age 50-75.
- **STRESS** the importance of prevention and early detection for colorectal cancer.
  - **ENCOURAGE** your patients to complete and return their FOBT every year.

## THE ISSUE

- Among cancers that affect both men and women, colorectal cancer (CRC) is the <u>most common cancer</u> among Native Americans.
- <u>Native Americans are two times</u> more likely to be diagnosed with late stage CRC than early stage CRC.

Source: NCI SEER Surveillance, Epidemiology, and End Results Program

• FOBT is an effective, affordable and accessible way to screen for CRC in the privacy of a person's home.

## CLINICAL RECOMMENDATIONS

- All Native Americans age 50-75 should be routinely screened for CRC.
- One recommended option is annual fecal occult blood testing (FOBT).
- Any positive FOBT must always be followed up with colonoscopy.
- A digital rectal exam (DRE) is <u>NOT</u> an appropriate method for CRC screening.

## iFOBT

(Immunochemical Fecal Occult Blood Test)

- iFOBT has several advantages over guaiac FOBT (gFOBT):
  - \* iFOBT has no food or medication restrictions.
  - \* iFOBT only detects lower GI bleeding.



REFERENCE: http://www.uspreventiveservicestaskforce.org/recommendations.htm

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