



Guidance on Supporting Persons with Disabilities to Use the BowelScreen Programme

BowelScreen have prepared a set of resources to assist persons with intellectual disabilities to use our Bowel Screening Programme.

These resources were developed in consultation with experts by experience - persons with intellectual disabilities. Support staff and staff involved in the BowelScreen service also took part.

The resources may be helpful to other persons too, for example, those with English as a second language, or with communication or literacy support needs.

The resources are targeted at different stages of the screening process, so you will need to decide which are relevant and appropriate to the individual you are supporting.

Easy to Read and Plain English resources may not be suitable for everyone. They require a person to have a level of symbolic understanding if they are to be meaningful. You may need to adapt and personalise these resources to suit the person you are supporting.

Resource 1 - About Bowel Screening: This is an Easy to Read leaflet explaining BowelScreen, bowel cancer, and bowel screening. It covers the consent process and gives brief information on using the FIT test at home. This leaflet is designed to be an introduction to the screening process. It is most relevant to persons at the start of their journey with BowelScreen.

Resource 2 - About Bowel Screening - Plain English version: This is a version of Resource 1 for those that prefer materials without images.

Resource 3 - Doing the BowelScreen test - A Photo Story: This photo story takes you through the experience of doing the home test. It explains each step in detail with photos of real people in real environments. It is designed to support individuals that want to know more about doing the FIT test at home. The aim is to reduce

anxiety by providing clear information about the things that are important to persons with disabilities.

Resource 4 - Doing the BowelScreen test - A Plain English story: This is a version of Resource 3 for those that prefer information without images.

Resource 5 - I need more tests - What happens now: This is a short, Easy to Read guide for persons that require more tests after their FIT test. It explains what happens next. It is appropriate for those that receive a 'not normal' result after their FIT test.

Resource 6 - I need more tests - What happens now - Plain English version: This is a version of Resource 5 for those that prefer information without images.

Resource 7 - Having a Colonoscopy - A Photo Story: This photo story takes you through the experience of having a colonoscopy, from receipt of a 'not normal' result to the hospital procedure. It explains each step in detail with photos of real people in real environments. It is designed to support individuals that want to know more about the steps involved in having a colonoscopy. The aim is to reduce anxiety by providing clear information about the things that are important to persons with disabilities.

Resource 8 - Having a Colonoscopy - A Plain English story: This is a version of Resource 7 for those that prefer information without images.

Resource 9 - Blank templates: This is a set of blank templates, one for the Easy to Read leaflet and one for the photo story. It allows you to add personalised information into the resources if the individual you are supporting would benefit from this. For example, you could insert a page with information about the person's G.P. or images of your local clinic/hospital. You could add a photo or information about who will support the person or how they might relax after a test or procedure.