

Discontinuation of Inpatient Fecal Occult Blood Testing

APPLIES TO BOTH CAMPUSES

- The fecal occult blood (FOBT) test is approved for colon cancer screening and is **not** intended for evaluation of anemia or suspected gastrointestinal bleeding.
- FOBT has important limitations, including specific testing requirements and dietary restrictions that, if not followed, can result in **false-positive** or **false-negative** results.
- In light of these limitations, current evidence-based recommendations, and the current standard practice at major tertiary hospitals, fecal occult blood testing will be **discontinued** from **all adult emergency and inpatient care areas** effective **September 10th, 2026**.
- Stool-based testing for colorectal cancer screening will remain an important tool to utilize in the outpatient setting for the appropriate patients.

