

# Our funded research: making a difference

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Combined Raman and FIT study (CRaFT)

Swansea Bay UHB and Swansea University





-A need to reduce variation/ harm/ delays in pathway



## Study design

- Patient acceptability and clinical effectiveness of combining FIT test (faecal) and Raman test (blood) in primary care
- Qualitative interviews with patients who participated and healthcare professionals (1°/2° care) and bowel screening decliners
- Diagnostic test performance (sensitivity/ specificity) of test pairing
- Towards a new prudent diagnostic care pathway for suspected CRC patients



#### Public involvement- Julie Hepburn

- Why did I become involved and why PPI was important for this study?
- What duties did I undertake?
- How did COVID affect my role?
- What did I gain from taking part?



#### Findings- Raman-FIT test- patients themes

- Attitudes towards Raman-FIT
- Trust in professionals/ test accuracy
- Perceived benefits
- Acceptability in primary care
- Self-efficacy in doing the test
- Test coherence



Ymchwil Iechyd a Gofal Cymru Health and Care Research Wales





improvement indication raman-fit reassurance psychological-wellbeing simple quicker-access access familiar-blood brilliant faecal-sample less-painful turnaround convenience speed confident amazin marvellous accuracy backlog quicker easier difficulty less-invasive physical-wellbeing convenient off-work test bowel-preparation straightforward instant happy



## Findings- Raman-FIT test- HCP themes

- Acceptability of Raman-FIT in primary care
- Best use of Raman-FIT
  - You're ruling it out for your low-risk patients, and you're facilitating the pathway for your higher risk patients.
  - it's more effective use of the resources rather than having to increase the resources
  - if you could use it for your rectal bleeders and differentiate which ones need a colonoscopy, that'd be great
- Perceived patient benefits
  - It's easy, they get a result quickly
  - Patients are much more willing to do anything that involves only coming here than the hospital







#### Bowel screening non-responders-themes

- Practicalities of FIT
  - 42.6% current FIT test is too much effort. Unpleasant and frightening
- Low perceived susceptibility
  - Test fatigue every 2 years
- Non-compliance despite best intentions
  - Kept leaving it for another day
- Emotional factors
  - Disgust (31%), anxiety, embarrassed
- Other health matters
- External factors
  - Colonoscopy preconceptions



### Pathway to Impact

 NIHR i4i funding ("CanSense-CRC: Development and optimisation of a blood test for the early detection of bowel cancer in primary care) £1.2M

-further clinical/ cost effectiveness work and PPI engagement for regulatory and HTA requirements of the Raman blood test.

- Usability studies with primary care to ensure that the novel Raman test is used in accordance with its instructions for use as a decision support tool.
- Cancer Research Wales funded trial in bowel screening ("COLOSPECT") alongside FIT to improve screening accuracy



## Implications for policy/ practice/ public benefit

- More prudent diagnostic pathway
- A more acceptable test than current invasive methods
- Improved access to colonoscopy for more
- More timely diagnosis and treatment- Single Cancer Pathway target compliance
- Increased pre-malignant polyp detection
  - Cancer prevention?
- Improve choice in bowel cancer screening- better uptake