

Dear Patient

**National Bowel Screening Programme - Test kit analysis**

We have recently been advised by the **National Bowel Screening Programme** that you failed to return the test kit for analysis.

The Practice firmly believes that this simple test is a valuable aid in detecting any potential signs of bowel cancer cells and would encourage you to reconsider your decision.

- A persistent change in bowel habit, especially going to the toilet more often or diarrhoea for several weeks.
- Bleeding from the back passage without any obvious reason.
- Abdominal pain, especially if it is severe.
- A lump in your abdomen.

Please remember that these symptoms do not necessarily mean that you have bowel cancer, but if you have one or more of these symptoms for four to six weeks, you should see your GP.

Should you no longer have the test kit and now wish to take part you can call the Screening Freephone number 0800 707 6060 and ask for another.

If, after careful consideration you decide not to take part, please let us know by calling 01924 237100. Please note that you will be offered screening every 2 years.

Your decision will have no impact on any future medical services provided by the Practice.

Yours sincerely

Middlestown Medical Centre