The Cologuard Plus™ Test: The FDA Approved Next-Generation Multi-target Stool DNA Test

The Cologuard Plus test was studied in a prospective, cross-sectional, multicenter trial that assessed the performance characteristics of the test compared to FIT* to detect colorectal cancer (CRC)[1]

Participants[1]
- >26,000 participants enrolled
- 18,911 participants included in the primary analysis (with colonoscopy and the Cologuard Plus test data)

59.7% White

63.0 Years (mean)

53.1% Female

Excluded participants:
- With first-degree relatives with CRC
- <45 years old

Study Design[1]
The Cologuard Plus test and FIT were performed on each stool sample and then participants underwent screening colonoscopies

Performance Measures
1. Sensitivity for CRC and advanced precancerous lesion (APL) detection
2. Specificity for lack of advanced neoplasia and lack of colorectal neoplastic findings†
3. Comparison of the Cologuard Plus test and FIT performance

A **positive Cologuard Plus test** may indicate the presence of CRC or APLs and **should be followed by a colonoscopy‡**

Key Results[1]

1 person icon represents 10 people

Sensitivity

The Cologuard Plus test had significantly higher sensitivity than FIT for all screening-relevant lesions; sensitivity did not vary significantly according to cancer stage

Overall CRC

Out of 100 persons with CRC
- The Cologuard Plus test would correctly identify ~95 persons
- FIT would correctly identify ~71 persons

APLs

Out of 100 persons with APLs
- The Cologuard Plus test would correctly identify ~43 persons
- FIT would correctly identify ~23 persons

Specificity

The Cologuard Plus test and FIT were both highly specific for the detection of CRC and APLs

Categories 3–6 (no CRC or APLs)

Out of 100 persons without CRC or advanced colorectal precancer
- The Cologuard Plus test would incorrectly identify ~9 persons
- FIT would incorrectly identify ~5 persons

Category 6 (no colorectal neoplastic findings)

Specificity when age-weighted to the US population with no findings on colonoscopy.

Out of 100 persons with no neoplastic findings
- The Cologuard Plus test would incorrectly identify ~6 persons

Prespecified outcomes were met

Disclaimer: The Cologuard Plus test is intended to screen adults 45 and older at average risk for colorectal cancer. Rx only. This document is not for promotional use.

The Cologuard Plus test is intended for the qualitative detection of colorectal neoplasia-associated DNA markers and for the presence of occult hemoglobin in human stool. The Cologuard Plus test is indicated to screen adults 45 years or older, who are at average risk for CRC.
*Polymedco OC-Auto® Micro 80 iFOB Test; positivity cutoff: hemoglobin >100 ng/mL.[2]
†Adenomas with high-grade dysplasia/carcinoma in situ of any size; adenomas with villous growth pattern (≥25%) of any size; adenomas ≥10 mm; serrated lesions ≥10 mm; or hyperplastic polyps ≥10 mm.
‡Effective January 1, 2023, Medicare now covers a screening colonoscopy after a positive noninvasive stool test as a preventive service, with no out-of-pocket costs. Some exceptions may apply, so it is recommended that patients call their insurer to confirm.[3,4]
APL: advanced precancerous lesion; **CRC:** colorectal cancer; **FDA:** Food and Drug Administration; **FIT:** fecal immunochemical test.

1. Cologuard Plus Clinician Brochure. Exact Sciences Corporation. Madison, WI. 2. Imperiale TF, et al. *N Engl J Med.* 2024;390(11):984-993.
3. Department of Labor. FAQs about Affordable Care Act Implementation Part 51, Families First Coronavirus Response Act and Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act Implementation. Published January 10, 2022. Accessed March 5, 2025. https://www.dol.gov/sites/dolgov/files/EBSA/about-ebsa/our-activities/resource-center/faqs/aca-part-51.pdf
4. Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. Colorectal cancer screening tests (210.3). Accessed March 5, 2025. https://www.cms.gov/medicare-coverage-database/view/ncd.aspx?NCDId=281

Learn more about colorectal cancer, colorectal cancer screening, and the Cologuard Plus test at Exact Academy.

exactsciences.com/exactacademy

EXACT SCIENCES

March 2025 / MED-CG-2500033 (v2.0)

Cologuard Plus and Exact Sciences are trademarks of Exact Sciences Corporation. All other trademarks are properties of their respective owners.
© 2025 Exact Sciences Corporation. All rights reserved.

EXACT SCIENCES