Access to Colonoscopy

Background

As you will be aware BOPDHB has been working to increase access volumes to colonoscopy across the district. This work has included outsourcing to local providers in Whakatane and Tauranga, expand staffing and doing extra sessions when possible. However, we continue to see demand above capacity.

New Outsource Provider

The service has recently been able to secure significant outsourcing capacity (+150 per month) through a provider in Cambridge. This outsourcing is planned to start late November 2020.

Further details about the Cambridge Facility and team is available from the attached info sheet



Or on the face book page

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/category/Medical---Health/Cambridge-Specialist-Centre-125126689106330/>

This is a great opportunity for BOPDHB to significantly reduce its colonoscopy waiting lists and waiting times for semi urgent and surveillance patients and help to prepare for Bowel Screening roll out next year.

Patients will be selected for this provider taking into consideration factors such as age, travel time and co-morbidities.

What we need from you

We fully understand that patients may have some concerns about having to travel to Cambridge for their procedure. The service needs your help to reassure your patients that this is providing a high quality service, reducing waiting times across the board for colonoscopy and speeding up diagnosis and treatment, especially given that colonoscopy is a primary diagnostic for bowel cancer.