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SASKATCHEWAN CANCER AGENCY

IMPROVED PROCESSES ENSURE COLORECTAL CANCER SCREENING RESULTS ARE NOT DELAYED IN FUTURE

Recently the Saskatchewan Cancer Agency's Screening Program for Colorectal Cancer became aware that 11 clients from the Prairie North Health Region who completed a fecal immunochemical blood test (FIT) were not initially notified of their abnormal results. The results date to tests processed between April 23-30, 2013.

The clients affected by this error have been contacted, and while none of the individuals were symptomatic the necessary follow-up is being provided, which can include a colonoscopy, retesting or consult with an endoscopist.

Previously the Screening Program processed results weekly, but in November 2013 the program implemented new processes to ensure all abnormal FIT results are handled the same day, which means an opportunity for more timely follow-up care. Additional quality checks are also in place to ensure that results are processed properly and that no client's information is missed.

"We regret that this error may have caused concern for our clients and we continue working to improve our processes so we can provide the very best in population based cancer screening for Saskatchewan residents," said Dr. Jon Tonita, Vice President of Population Health at the Saskatchewan Cancer Agency.

The Screening Program for Colorectal Cancer was launched in September 2009 and became available province-wide in February 2013.

For information on the Screening Program for Colorectal Cancer visit www.saskcancer.ca.

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