

# CRC Screening Project 1

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## Impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on faecal immunochemical test-based colorectal cancer screening programmes in Australia, Canada, and the Netherlands: a comparative modelling study

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# CCGMC WG2 – project 1

**Aim: to estimate the impact of hypothetical disruptions to organised FIT-based colorectal cancer screening programmes on long-term colorectal cancer incidence and mortality.**

- A short-term disruption to colorectal cancer screening is projected to have a modest long-term effect on colorectal cancer deaths.
- It is crucial that catch-up screening is provided to mitigate the impact on colorectal cancer burden.

*Reference: de Jonge L\*, Worthington J\*, van Wifferen F, Iragorri N, Peterse EF, Lew JB, Greuter MJ, Smith HA, Feletto E, Yong JH, Canfell K. Impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on faecal immunochemical test-based colorectal cancer screening programmes in Australia, Canada, and the Netherlands: a comparative modelling study. The Lancet Gastroenterology & Hepatology. 2021 Apr 1;6(4):304-14. (\*joint first authors)*



# CRC screening Project 2

Aim: to evaluate strategies that clear the CRC screening backlog due to the COVID-19 pandemic using limited colonoscopy resources, including:

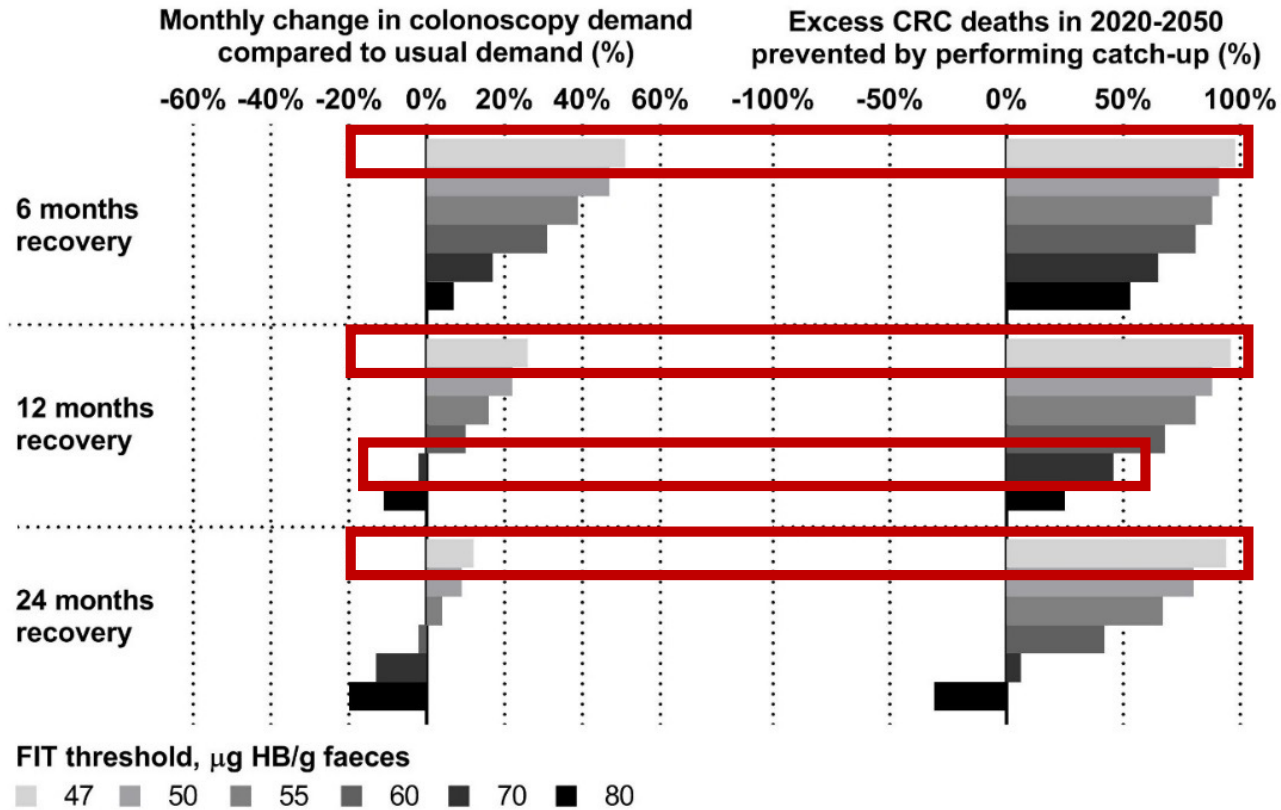
1. Performing catch-up screening at regular FIT threshold in 6, 12 & 24 months
2. Performing catch-up screening at increased FIT threshold in 6, 12 & 24 months
  - Netherlands: 47, 50, 55, 60, 70, 80  $\mu\text{g}$  HB/g faeces
  - Canada & Australia: 20, 25, 30, 40, 50, 60  $\mu\text{g}$  HB/g faeces

Using 4 microsimulation models (ASCCA, MISCAN-Colon, OncoSim, Policy1-Bowel) to evaluate the programs in the Netherlands, Canada and Australia.



# Project 2 – ASCCA results

## A. ASCCA - the Netherlands



# Conclusions

- Optimal strategies are setting-specific, however:
  - Catch-up of screening for people who were affected by a 3-month disruption over a 24-month period could avert most excess CRC-related deaths
    - This would require a small increase in diagnostic colonoscopy demand after a positive FIT.
  - Increasing the FIT threshold slightly over a long recovery period could ease the pressure on colonoscopy resources.



# CRC screening Project 3

- Extension of Project 1, which used hypothetical screening pauses in the Netherlands, Australia & Canada
- Planning phase:
  - Extending to other countries with comparable FIT-based screening programs
  - Scoping of available real-world screening data (ICSN survey, information from local programs)
  - Additional outputs including the economic impact of the disruption

