



Media Release

Screen out Colorectal Cancer with free FOBT kit from Raffles Hospital

23 March 2015 – From now till 30 April this year, Raffles Hospital will be offering free FOBT (Faecal Occult Blood Test) screenings to individuals aged 50 and above. Similar to last year, individuals will be issued a FOBT kit and a simple guide to help them with the test. The kit is available for collection at Raffles Hospital and all 42 Raffles Medical clinics nationwide.

Despite being the number one cancer killer in Singapore, colorectal cancer (cancer of the large intestine) is largely preventable or treatable if discovered early. Most cases of this cancer begin as small, benign growths on the walls of the colon which may become cancerous over time. Those aged 50 and above, with or without a family history of cancer, are at risk of developing colorectal cancer.

Dr Ng Chin, Specialist in General Surgery & Consultant, Raffles Surgery Centre, shared: “Early screening can help prevent many deaths. In fact, patients who were diagnosed with stage 1 colorectal cancer have a high cure rate of more than 90 percent as compared to those diagnosed in later stages. Moreover, FOBT is considered non-invasive and one can do the test in the comfort of their home.”

“We are encouraged by the high take-up rate for last year’s FOBT screening. Within a span of two to three months, a total of 750 kits were sent back for analysis, of which 50 were tested positive and required further follow-up. In support of Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month in March, we decided to offer this service to the public again to reinforce the importance of colorectal cancer screening and prevention,” added Dr Prem Kumar Nair, General Manager of Raffles Hospital.

Colonoscopy or gastroscopy may be recommended as a follow-up for individuals who have blood detected in their stools. Interested individuals can call 6311 1152 for enquiries.

For media queries, please contact:

Stella Phua (Ms)

Executive, Corporate Communications

Raffles Medical Group

Tel: 6311 1332 HP: 9825 8927

Email: phua_stella@rafflesmedical.com

Magdalene Lee (Ms)

Senior Manager, Corporate Communications

Raffles Medical Group

Tel: 6311 1318 HP: 9673 7403

Email: lee_magdalene@rafflesmedical.com

RafflesMedicalGroup (SGX: RafflesMG) is a leading integrated private healthcare provider in Singapore and the region.

RafflesMedical clinics form one of the largest network of private family medicine centres in Singapore. We also operate a clinic network in Hong Kong and a medical centre in Shanghai.

RafflesHospital, the flagship of Raffles Medical Group, is a private tertiary hospital located in the heart of Singapore. We offer a wide range of specialist medical and diagnostic services for both inpatients and outpatients. Representing more than 30 disciplines, our team of specialists form a group practice combining sub-specialty expertise and teamwork to ensure optimal, affordable and high quality care for our patients.

We also have representative offices in Indonesia, Vietnam, Cambodia, Brunei, Bangladesh and the Russian Far East, as well as associates throughout the Asia-Pacific region.

RafflesDental is a team-based dental group in Singapore comprising of a specialist dental practice at Raffles Hospital and a network of general dental clinics.

RafflesHealthinsurance provides healthcare insurance to corporate and individual clients.

For more information, please refer to our website at www.rafflesmedicalgroup.com.