

## **9. NHS QIS Quality Standards**

The development of clinical standards for the bowel screening programme is the responsibility of NHS Quality Improvement Scotland (NHS QIS), taking into account advice from the Scottish Bowel Screening Centre and in consultation with NHS organisations.

NHS QIS established a project group to take this work forward, chaired by Professor Bob Steele. The group first met in February 2006 and considered a number of topics surrounding the bowel screening programme pathway and for this starting point six key areas for clinical standards were identified.

- general
- call-recall
- the screening process
- the laboratory process
- pre-colonoscopy assessment and
- colonoscopy and histopathology

NHS QIS published Bowel Screening Programme Clinical Standards on 6 March 2007 and these can be accessed on the NHS QIS website at:

<http://www.nhshealthquality.org/nhsqis/3344.html>