

REDUCING THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT OF ENDOSCOPY STARTS TOMORROW

SCREENING: ALL LIGHTS ARE GREEN!

The following information was devised by The Eco-Responsibility and Sustainability Development Committee from the French Society for Digestive Endoscopy (SFED). The European Society for Gastrointestinal Endoscopy (ESGE) are grateful for the opportunity to bring these important resources to a wider audience.

Ecological benefits of screening (USA over 10 years)

By reducing advanced stages of colorectal cancer screening would save:

- 6.3 million colonoscopies per year in the USA^{1,2}
- 1.1 million cancers prevented over 10 years

Equivalent to:

- 635 million kilometers driven by car
- 19,000 billion smartphones replaced
- 68.4 million litres of gasoline

Economic benefits of screening: Sustainability!

Screening versus no screening^{3,4}:

- Increase of 14 QALYs thanks to FIT 3,600 €/QALY (quality-adjusted life year)
- FIT every two years is the most cost-effective
- Screening is cost-effective (<1,000 €/life-year saved)⁵

Which screening method?

FIT has much lower impact than upfront colonoscopy:

- 59% CO2 impact avoided in the USA⁶
- 64% of CO2 impact of screening comes from colonoscopy

FIT is less expensive for society⁴:

- FIT: 2,600 €/QALY
- FIT + sigmoidoscopy: 5,700 €/QALY
- Colonoscopy: 150,000 €/QALY

No place for colon capsule in screening⁷:

- Expensive
- Significant carbon footprint⁸
- Very high sensitivity (many lesions needing colonoscopy)

Only one solution: Increase the participation!

SFED comic book project⁹ to:

- Improve knowledge
- Demystify screening of pre-cancer (not cancer)

- Highlight hidden benefits: ecological, family, individual
- Limit language barriers (translation into 10 languages)

BUT SOMETIMES, A SMALL EFFORT TODAY HELPS AVOID BIG TROUBLE TOMORROW.

THINK ABOUT IT.



TO VIEW THE WHOLE COMIC BOOK, CLICK ON THE LINK:

www.sfed.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/09/Depistage-Traduction-Anglais.pdf

FOR SELECTING TO VIEW THE COMIC BOOK IN ONE OF THE 10 AVAILABLE LANGUAGES, CLICK ON THE LINK:

<https://www.sfed.org/espace-patient/bande-dessinee>

RECOMMENDATIONS MAY VARY AMONG COUNTRIES

This comic book was created with the support of:

Documentation: Professor Mathieu Pioche

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- (6) Alcock R, Shaikat A, Kisiel JB, et al. Environmental impact of colorectal cancer screening. Health Aff Sch 2025.
- (7) Baatrup G, Bjørsum-Meyer T, Kaalby L, et al. Colon capsule vs colonoscopy in FIT-positive patients. Gut 2025.
- (8) Pioche M, Cunha Neves JA, Pohl H, et al. Environmental impact of capsule endoscopy. Endoscopy 2024.
- (9) <https://www.sfed.org/espace-patient/bande-dessinee/>