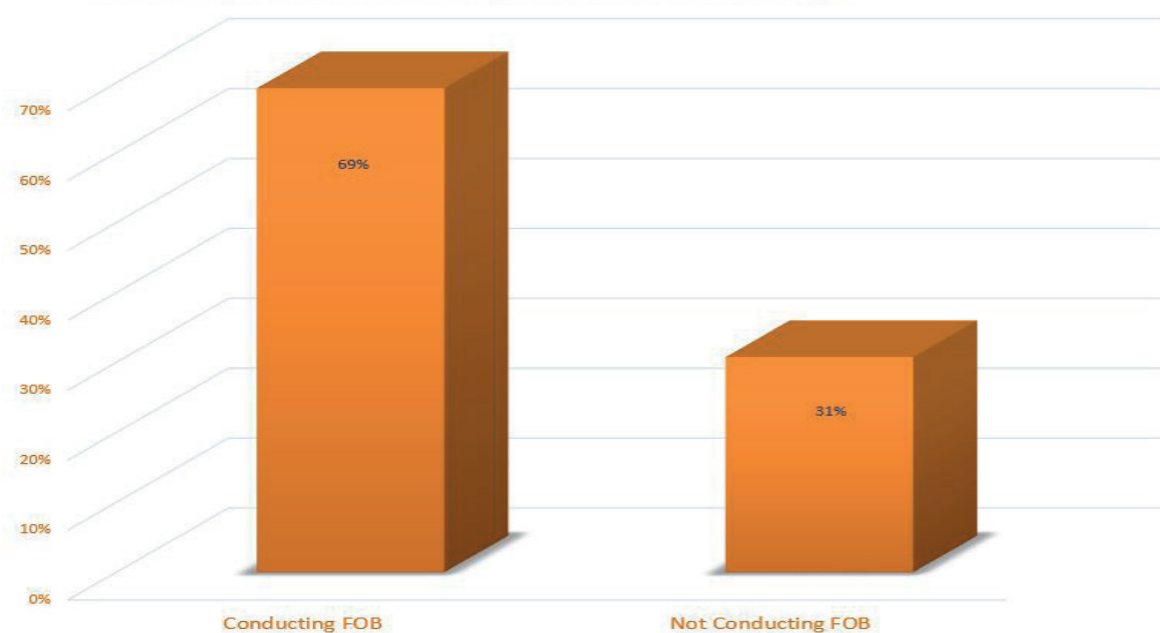


Faecal Immunochemical Testing - What are laboratories doing?

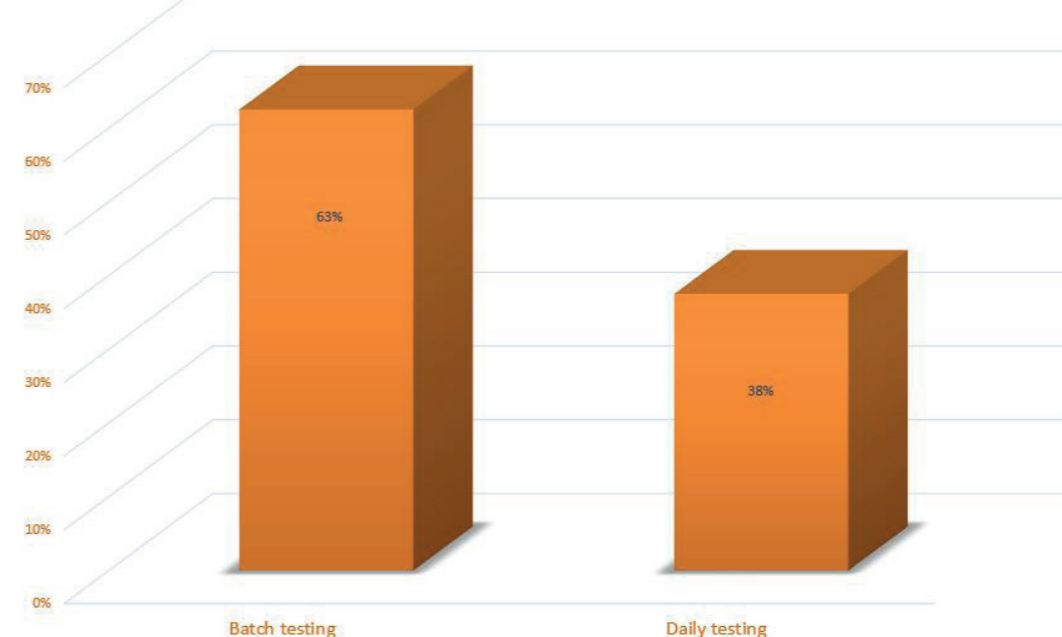
Clinical scientists attending Alpha Laboratories' Digestive Diseases Day 2017 workshop were surveyed regarding the faecal immunochemical testing performed in their laboratories. The results from the attendees are summarised below:

How many sites are conducting FIT/FOB tests routinely?



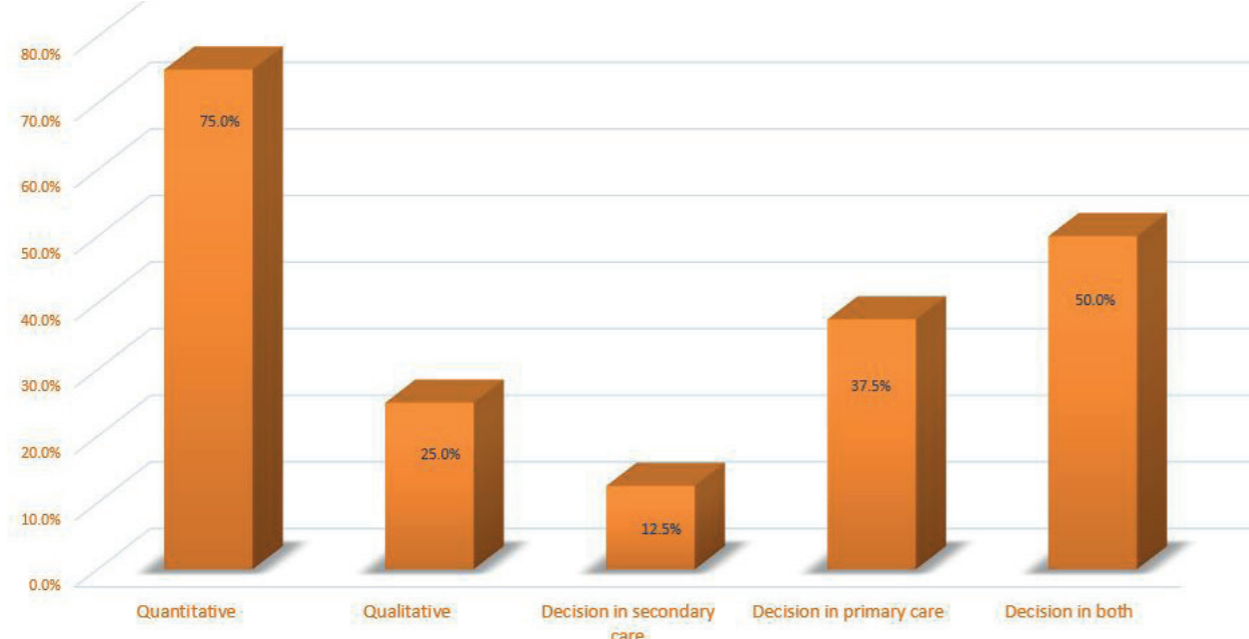
The majority of respondents are already conducting FIT or FOB tests routinely. Of those who do not currently test, most receive samples but their testing is outsourced.

How often are the FOB tests conducted?



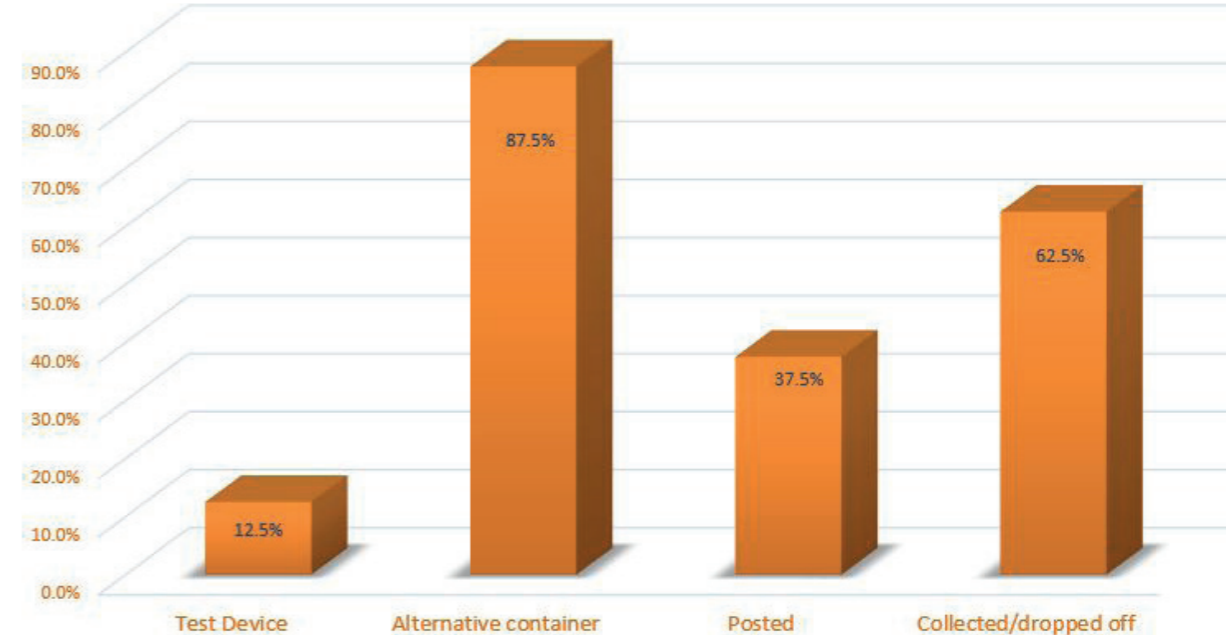
Most labs are currently batch testing. Due to the number of samples they are currently receiving, all of those who reported batch testing are conducting runs twice per week.

How do you report FOB results, and to whom?



Three-quarters of respondents report faecal haemoglobin quantitatively. The respondents were also asked where decisions are made, whether primary or secondary care. The majority of labs combine decisions in primary and secondary care – and of those labs making the decision in one or the other, primary care was most popular.

What sample collection device is used - and how are they returned?



The most popular sample collection device is a non-specific container, rather than a specific test device. These containers are then often collected from the GP by the lab, or dropped off at the lab directly. A small minority of respondents have their samples posted. Those using the specific test device, have samples sent by post.