

Cervical Screening (Smear test)

CORONAVIRUS UPDATE

- It is important for you to attend for your cervical screening test and we are offering appointments for this
- Please do not delay the test due to the coronavirus pandemic. It is important to not miss this test.

Information about cervical screening

- Cervical screening checks the health of the cervix. The cervix is the opening to the womb
- It is not a test for cancer, it is a test to help prevent cancer. It detects pre-cancerous cells.
- All women and people with a cervix aged 25 to 64 should be invited by letter.
- Your age group determines how often you should attend for the test - every 3 to 5 years
- During the screening appointment, a small sample of cells will be taken from the cervix.
- The sample is checked for certain types of human papillomavirus (HPV) that can cause changes to the cells of the cervix.
- If these types of HPV are not found, no additional tests are needed. You will be called for your next routine smear in 3-5 years (depending on your age)
- If these types of HPV are found, the sample is then checked for any changes in the cells of the cervix.
- If these changes are found they can be treated before they get a chance to turn into cervical cancer.
- You'll get your results by letter, it will also detail if you need further treatment

The following site has a video of how the sample is taken

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/cervical-screening/>