

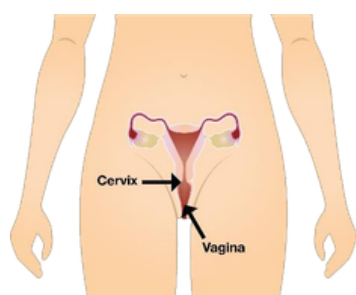
An easy read guide to attending a cervical screening at your GP Surgery



You will receive an invitation to ask you to book a cervical screening test by text, letter or the NHS App.

The test will be completed at your GP Practice. Please make sure NHS App notifications are turned on. Go to the website for more details:

nhs.uk/nhs-app/help/profile/managing-nhs-app-notifications/



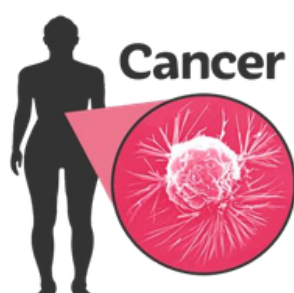
Cervical screening is a test to help to prevent cancer of the cervix.

The cervix is inside your body at the top of your vagina.

You might have heard it called the smear test.



Tests are offered to women and people with a cervix aged 25 to 64 in England every 5 years unless results show that more regular checks are needed.



The test looks for a virus called HPV which can cause cervical cancer.

The test also looks for unhealthy cells.



You can catch the virus from any kind of sex or sexual touching from a man or woman.

You can have the test even if you have never had sex.



There is an easy read leaflet that tells you about the test. The leaflet can help you decide if you would like to do the test.

You can ask your doctors surgery for a copy of this leaflet or print it from this website:
gov.uk/government/publications/cervical-screening-easy-read-guide



This film has been produced to help people working in primary care make cervical screening more accessible for women with learning disabilities and autistic women.

The film is on YouTube:

[Top tips for cervical screening with women with learning disabilities and/or autistic women](#)



You can talk to your family or carer about the test.

You can talk to a nurse at your doctors surgery.



You can book your appointment through the NHS app or by calling your GP.

If you are overdue for your screening by 6 months or more, you may be able to use a self-sampling (testing) kit at your GP practice or request via the NHS app to have one sent to your home.



You can ask lots of questions before your test.

You can ask for a longer appointment time and to have it done by a female nurse.

You can also be supported to go with a friend, carer or relative.



The test will be in a private room.

The nurse will ask you to take your knickers off and lie on a bed.



The nurse will use a medical instrument (speculum) to put into your vagina, this will open it a little.

Then they can take a sample of cells from your cervix using a swab.

You can ask the nurse to use a smaller speculum.



The test only takes a minute or two.

The whole appointment usually lasts about 10 minutes.



Results can be seen on your NHS App or posted to your home if you do not have the app.

If the results are not normal, a letter will always be sent to your home.