

North East & Yorkshire Cervical Screening Programme Update

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Other Contacts:

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Thank You

Thank you to everyone who has taken notice of our request to be more specific with their locations when ordering tests. This has made a marked difference in our reception area, especially reducing the number of queries that the staff have to make regarding manual request forms.

Festive Quiz: History of Cervical Screening — Christmas Past

For a bit of fun for this edition, try our cervical screening festive quiz (answers on the reverse):

Q1: The cervical screening test is named after Dr. George _____

Q2: The first manual cervical smear test was introduced in what decade?

- A) 1920s B) 1940s C) When Santa finally got NHS approval D) 1990s

Q3: The HPV vaccine was first introduced into national immunisation programmes in:

- A) 1998 B) 2006 C) 2012 D) When Santa finally finished the clinical trials at the North Pole

Q4: Liquid-based cytology (LBC) replaced the traditional smear slide method in many countries around:

- A) 2000s B) When Rudolph finished his lab training C) 1980s D) 1890s

Q5: HPV primary screening replaced cytology-first screening because it is more:

- A) Fashionable B) Accurate and sensitive C) Festive D) Time-consuming

Q6: True or False:

Cervical cancer death rates have dropped by more than 70% in countries with organised screening programmes

Q7: Correct brush technique involves:

- A) Rotating the brush 5 full turns in one direction B) Drawing a tiny Christmas tree shape
C) Using sweeping motions D) Pressing firmly without rotating

Q8: The primary purpose of cervical screening is to:

- A) Diagnose cancer B) Detect HPV and cell changes early C) Test fertility
D) Check if the patient has eaten too many mince pies

Q9: If mucus obscures the cervix, you should:

- A) Insert the brush anyway B) Gently clear with a swab before sampling C) Cancel D) Ask them to sing a Christmas song

Q10: The most common cause of an inadequate sample is:

- A) Incorrect brush rotation B) Patient age C) Christmas jumpers restricting movement D) Gloves

Q11: Festive Fill-in-the-Blanks:

- A) Screening prevents cancer by detecting _____ early.
B) It is essential to sample the transformation _____.
C) HPV is spread by intimate skin-to-skin _____.
D) A repeat is usually required in _____ months for HPV+ / cytology negative



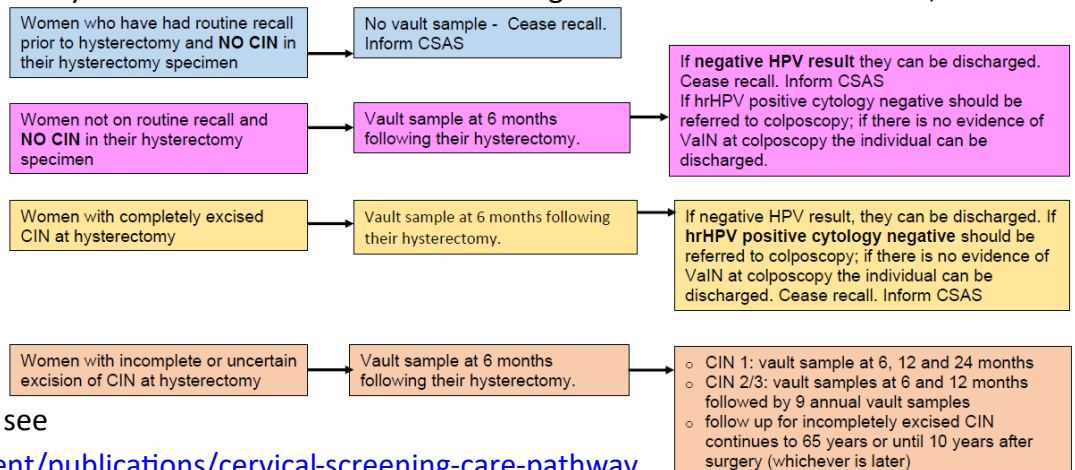
Frequently Asked Pathway Questions

A recent telephone audit identified these three common questions regarding patient pathways:

CSMS ceased over 60's—CSMS automatically cease non-responding patients when they turn 60 years old. However people with a cervix are entitled to 1 cervical HPV test before exiting the programme even if the ceased banner is on the patient record. Please check patient recall dates before testing / refusing.

CGIN—Completely excised CGIN patients require 2 Test of Cure samples, the first at 6 months and the second at 18 months. If the second Test Of Cure is HPV **negative**, the patient will be recalled at 36 months.

Vault smears—Patients who have had a hysterectomy for non-cervical reasons (negative for CIN etc) and who have no prior history of cervical abnormalities are not eligible for a HPV test. However, if symptomatic, refer Accordingly. If the Patient had any prior cervical abnormalities or CIN was seen in their hysterectomy, refer to the flow diagram.



For further information see

www.gov.uk/government/publications/cervical-screening-care-pathway

Self-Sampling Update

Although slightly delayed, self-sampling is still due to commence early next year. Work is still on-going on the national guidance.

Did you know..

... This newsletter is sent out to sample takers and administrators registered on Cervical Sample Taker Database (CSTD). If one of your sample taker colleagues has not received it, please ask them to check that their email address on CSTD is up to date. If they are unable to log in, they should contact gan-tr.northcstd@nhs.net

Survey Results

Thanks to everyone that replied to the survey. We have been reviewing the survey throughout the year and tried to answer any comments in our newsletter. Here are the highlights:

- 97% rated the service as good or excellent, with comments on how helpful and polite the staff are
- Everyone is happy with the timeliness of results
- 94% rated the courier service as good or excellent, the answers and comments have been passed over to the courier service
- 91% rated the ordering of supplies as good or excellent but there were several requests to be able to order additional brushes, this is possible by emailing ghnt.hpv-supplies@nhs.net
- Everyone rated the service as good or excellent when contacting us for results, general queries or clinical advice

Season's Greetings from all of us at the Northeast and Yorkshire Cervical Screening Programme

Quiz answers: Q1) Papanicolaou (Dr. George Papanicolaou) Q2) 1940s Q3) 2006 Q4) 2000s Q5) B — more accurate and sensitive Q6) True Q7) A Q8) B Q9) B Q10) A Q11) A) abnormal cells / cell changes B) zone C) contact D) 12 months

To speak to a member of the team call 0800 953 7610