

After your smear test - your test results



Easy Read 2016 edition



This leaflet has a few difficult words and ideas in it

We have made this leaflet as accessible as possible. There are still some difficult ideas in it. You might need to ask a friend, family member, carer or health professional to help you read this booklet.



Leaflets with the green thumbs up symbol on the cover have a small number of difficult words and ideas in them.



Leaflets with the orange thumbs up symbol on the cover have a few difficult words and ideas in them.



Leaflets with the red thumbs down symbol on the cover have quite a lot of difficult words and ideas in them.



If you see the symbol on the left it means there is a difficult medical word. This is a word that you might hear when you visit your doctor. You might also see it on letters and leaflets you get from your doctor.

This leaflet is about what happens after your smear test.



You have already had a smear test and have had your test results sent to you in the post.



If you are worried about your test results, you might want to talk about it with someone. Your nurse or GP can answer your questions.

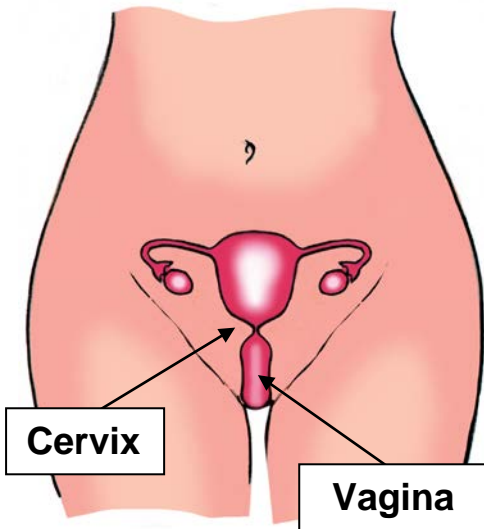


It's important to keep going for the smear test every time you're asked.



Cancer. This is a serious illness that can kill if it is not treated.

Your test results



Smear tests check for any changes in your cervix.

Changes are very common.

Not all changes mean you have cancer.



Cells. These are tiny parts of your body that are tested to see if you are ill.

Your results letter will tell you if there are:

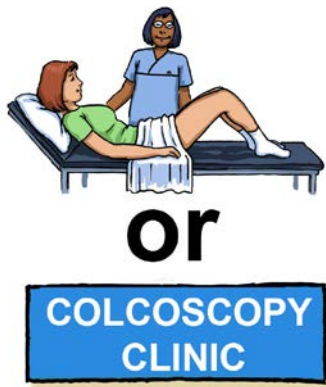
No changes to your cells



Usually your letter will say 'no changes'.

You'll be asked to have another smear test in three or five years.

Not enough cells to test



This means the test did not work properly.

You'll be asked to have the test again in three months or to go to a colposcopy clinic (see page 4).

Minor changes to your cells



These sometimes clear up on their own and do not require any treatment.

You will be asked to have another smear test in a few months.

Changes which require further investigation



If changes are found which need to be looked at more closely.

You will be asked to go to a colposcopy clinic for more tests (see page 4).

What happens at the colposcopy clinic?



A colposcopy clinic has special equipment for examining your cervix, called a colposcope.



The colposcope looks like a pair of binoculars on a stand.



The specialist will gently insert a speculum in your vagina and look at your cervix through the colposcope.



The specialist will be able to see if the changes in your cervix are serious, and if you need more treatment.



The specialist will explain what happens next.

Where can I get more information?



For more information, talk to your midwife, practice nurse or GP, or call the NHS inform helpline on 0800 22 44 88 (textphone 18001 0800 22 44 88). The helpline also provides a translation service.



Jo's Cervical Cancer Trust

www.jostrust.org.uk

0808 802 8000



This information is also available at

www.immunisationscotland.org.uk



For any other information, email

nhs.healthscotland-publications@nhs.net



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The original English version of this resource is also available in Urdu, Chinese and Polish.

NHS Health Scotland is happy to consider requests for other languages and formats.



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