

# Cervical Screening Awareness Week 2022

## 20<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> June

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### Who is invited for cervical screening?

You should be invited for cervical screening if you have a cervix.

Women are usually born with a cervix. ♀

Trans men, non-binary and intersex people may also have one. ♂

In the UK, you are automatically invited for cervical screening if you are:





- between the ages of 25 to 64
- registered as female with a GP surgery.

You may get your first invite up to 6 months before you turn 25. You can book an appointment as soon as you get the invite. ✉

### How often will I be invited for cervical screening?

Your cervical screening result will help decide when you are next invited for cervical screening. 📄

You may be invited:

- every year 
- every 3 years 
- every 5 years 
- straight to colposcopy for more tests. 

## What is the difference between cervical screening and a smear test?

There is no difference between cervical screening and a smear test. They are two different names for the same test. ✨

A smear test is the older name for the test. It was called that because of the way the test used to be done – cells were smeared on a glass slide, which was sent to the laboratory for testing. ✨

The test is different now and most healthcare professionals call it cervical screening. Your letter will invite you to attend cervical screening, which is why we call it that in our information. ✨

## Does cervical screening check anything other than the health of my cervix?

No. Cervical screening is only designed to find high-risk HPV or cervical cell changes which, if not monitored or treated, may eventually develop into cervical cancer. It does not check for other conditions or any cancers. 🏠