



Your Cervical Screening Test

Preventing cervical cancer



Who should have a Cervical Screening Test?

All women and people with a cervix aged 25-74 years, who have ever had any sexual contact, should have a regular Cervical Screening Test.

This includes those who:

- Feel well and have no symptoms
- Are pregnant
- Have been vaccinated against HPV
- Are going through menopause
- No longer have periods
- Have not had sexual contact in a long time
- Have only ever had one sexual partner
- Have an intellectual and/or physical disability
- Only have sex with women
- Are transgender, gender diverse, or non-binary and have a cervix.

If you have had a hysterectomy, speak with your healthcare provider to check if you still need to screen.

When do I need a Cervical Screening Test?

A **Cervical Screening Test** is recommended **every five (5) years**.

Depending on test results, some people may need to return to screen earlier.

If you are unsure when you are due for your Cervical Screening Test, check with **your healthcare provider** or contact the **National Cancer Screening Register (NCSR)** on **1800 627 701**.

Where can I get a Cervical Screening Test?

Cervical Screening Test providers can be found at most:

- GP practices
- Sexual Health Clinics
- Aboriginal Medical Services
- Women's Health Centres
- Community Health Clinics.

Why do Cervical Screening Tests matter?

Regular cervical screening prevents almost all cervical cancers. Most people who develop cervical cancer have either never screened or do not screen regularly. A Cervical Screening Test looks for human papillomavirus (HPV).

You have the option to have:

- A self-collected Cervical Screening Test, or
- A healthcare provider-collected Cervical Screening Test.

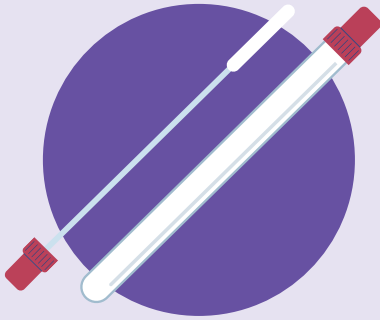
Ask about any costs when you make your appointment. It is important to find a healthcare provider you trust, at a service where you feel comfortable.



Understanding your options

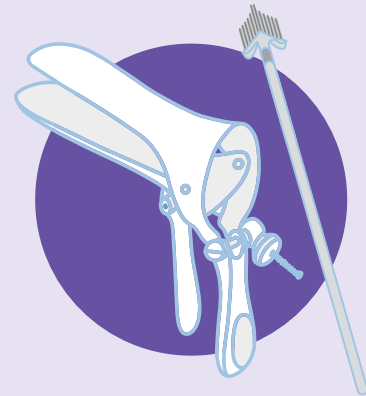
A self-collected Cervical Screening Test

- ✓ You collect your own sample from the vagina
- ✓ Checks for HPV
- ! Does not collect cervical cells to check for abnormal cell changes
- ! If HPV is found, you will need to return to have a cervical sample collected by your healthcare provider or specialist to check for abnormal cell changes.



A healthcare provider-collected Cervical Screening Test

- ✓ Your healthcare provider collects a sample from your cervix containing cervical cells
- ✓ Checks for HPV
- ✓ If HPV is found, the same sample is checked for abnormal cervical cell changes.



My Cervical Screening Test

- ☐ I am a woman and/or have a cervix
- ☐ I am between the ages of 25-74
- ☐ It has been 5 or more years since my last Cervical Screening Test

Or

- ☐ I cannot remember when my last Cervical Screening Test was

Or

- ☐ I have never had a Cervical Screening Test in Australia.

If you have selected three (3) or more check boxes, please ask your healthcare provider about cervical screening.

My next Cervical Screening Test is due:

See your healthcare provider as soon as possible if at any age you have symptoms such as:

- Vaginal bleeding after sex
- Bleeding in between periods
- Vaginal bleeding after menopause
- Unusual vaginal discharge
- Continual pain during sex.

