

New Cervical Screening Test

We are making changes to how we check for cervical cancer.

Now there are two types of tests available.

1. **HPV Swab Test:** This test checks for a virus called HPV (Human Papilloma Virus). Sometimes, HPV can cause changes in the cells of the cervix, which is the lower part of the uterus. You can even do this test yourself if you want to.
2. **Cytology Test (Old Style Smear):** This test looks for any cell changes in the cervix that are caused by HPV.

Most people can get the swab test, but some may still need the old-style smear test.

If you belong to certain groups, you might be able to get free cervical screening:

- People with a cervix who are 30 years old or older and haven't had cervical screening in the last 5 years or never had a test.
- People who need follow-up tests.
- Māori and Pacifica peoples.
- People who have a community service card.

Getting screened is important for your health, so talk to your healthcare provider to find out which test is right for you and if you qualify for a free screening.

You do not have to do anything we will recall you as normal

Follow the link for more information:

<https://www.timetoscreen.nz/cervical-screening/screening-options/>

