

# CERVICAL SCREENING

FOR ALL WOMEN & PEOPLE  
WITH A CERVIX AGE 25-64

4 Step  
GUIDE

Step 1

## INVITE



When your screening is due, you will automatically receive an invite in the post.

Follow the instructions provided in your invite letter.

Book an appointment with your GP Practice as soon as possible.



Step 2  
BOOK

Step 3

## ATTEND



At your appointment, a nurse takes a sample of cells from your cervix using a small, soft brush.

The sample is sent to a lab for testing.

Your results will usually be sent to you within 2 weeks from your test.



Step 4  
RESULTS

WHEN TO  
ATTEND

AGE 25 - 50

Every 3 years

50 - 64

Every 5 years

# WHAT IS CERVICAL SCREENING?



IT SAVES  
4,500 LIVES  
EACH YEAR!\*

## HEALTH CHECK

Previously called the smear test, it checks the health of your cervix.

The cervix is the opening to your womb from your vagina.



## PREVENTION

Cervical screening is one of the best ways to protect yourself from cervical cancer.

Cervical screening is not a test for cancer, it's a test to help prevent cancer.

We're testing for a virus called high risk human papilloma virus (HPV).

## HPV

Finding high risk HPV early means you can be monitored for abnormal cell changes which if found can be treated so they do not get a chance to turn into cervical cancer.



## THE TEST

You'll attend an appointment at your GP Practice with a nurse.

The test is free of charge and only takes 1 to 2 minutes. Allow about 10 minutes for the whole appointment.

\*Source - (NHS Digital - Open Exeter/PHE)