

**Have you been invited
to have a cervical
screening test?**

Press Release:



North Central London
Clinical Commissioning Group

You may already be aware that it is Cervical Screening Awareness Week this week. The week aims to highlight the importance of regular cervical screening for women's health.

Cervical cancer is the most common form of cancer in women under 35 with two women in the UK per day dying from the disease. Regular cervical screening appointments can prevent up to 75% of instances of cervical cancer, saving 5000 lives per year. Despite this, many women are reluctant to have this test done with a quarter of women not responding to their screening invitation. Cervical Screening Awareness Week is organised by the charity Jo's trust, a charity dedicated to women affected by cervical cancer or abnormalities.

To coincide with Cervical Screening Awareness Week, we have produced a short video aimed at encouraging women that have been invited for their cervical screening test and not yet had it done, to contact their local GP practice and book an appointment.

Given the additional concerns around COVID-19, we also wanted to take this opportunity to provide some reassurance to these women that healthcare services are taking additional steps to keep everyone safe and show what the nurse is likely to be wearing when carrying out the procedure.

Please do share this widely through your usual communication channels.

Key Messages:



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- If you have received an invite letter in the past year, and not yet had your test, you are able to get this done at your local GP practice.
- Your safety is our top priority and we are taking every measure to make your visit to the practice as safe and comfortable as possible.
- Your nurse will be wearing protective clothing such as disposable gloves, a mask and an apron.
- If you are between the ages of 25-49 it is important to have a test every 3 years. If you are between 50 and 64 then it's every 5 years.
- If you are not sure whether you should take part in screening, remember that if you have a cervix then cervical screening is for you.
- Screening saves lives.

For more information about cervical screening and cervical screening awareness week please use the following links:-

- **Jo's Trust**
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ej_Pci-W6Hk
- **Cancer Research UK**
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QjuEYqQvb0E>
- **Cervical awareness week**
<https://www.awarenessdays.com/awareness-days-calendar/cervical-screening-awareness-week-2020/>
- **#smearstestssavelives**

Video Link & Contacts:



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Link to the video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hWD7ogQJ8x0&t=5s>



For further information about the video or press queries please contact:

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