

Cervical Screening: Test of Cure

Management and follow up of Women who have a High Grade History

See Regional Health Pathways

Pathway to 3 yearly Screening (Test of Cure)

Any woman that has a high grade history or that has completed colposcopy can return to three yearly screening.

National Cervical Screening Programme guidelines recommend:

Indications for Human papillomavirus (HPV) testing in women with previous high grade

Type	Summary	Indication	Testing	Who orders the test?
Test of Cure	1. After treatment for a high grade squamous cell lesion 2. After a total hysterectomy and a previous CIN2 or CIN3 3. After a cytology possible or definite high grade squamous result where no high grade lesion has been found on investigation	To assess the safety of the woman returning to three-yearly screening	Two co-tests* one year apart - Cytology + HPV test (one year post treatment) - Repeat cytology + HPV test one year later - If both tests are negative return to 3 yearly screening	The smear taker must order the HPV test (the laboratory cannot add it on)
Historical Testing	High grade squamous cell changes > 3 years previously with subsequent normal annual screening	To assess the safety of returning to three-yearly screening	Two co-tests* one year apart - Cytology + HPV test - Repeat cytology + HPV test one year later - If both tests are negative return to 3 yearly screening	The smear taker must order the HPV test (the laboratory cannot add it on)

*co-test is defined as a cytology test and an HPV test from the same sample.

Add on tests for HPV

If a woman is eligible for a co-test and HPV has not been requested with a smear the laboratory will add the following comment:

“Annual smears are indicated due to a previous high grade abnormality. In light of normal cytology reports this patient meets the NCSP Guidelines for HPV testing for Test of Cure. Patient consent must be obtained to perform the first HPV test.”

The sample is kept for four weeks, and HPV can be requested as an ‘add on test’ by contacting the laboratory.