

# Smear Tests



Smear tests are offered to all women aged between 20 and 60.

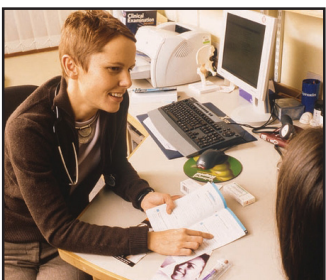


A smear test reduces the risk of cervical cancer.



Your GP or doctor will send you a letter every 3 years.

The letter will tell you to phone and make an appointment.



A GP, doctor or nurse will carry out the smear test.

It only takes a few minutes.



The only time you can't have a smear test is during your period.



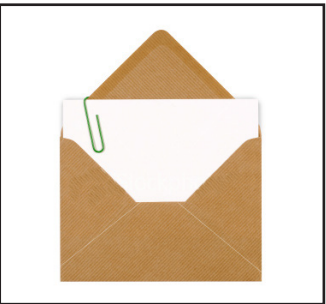
You will be asked to take off your knickers and lie on the examination table.



They will insert a speculum in to your vagina.

They will take a small sample of cells from your cervix.

This shouldn't hurt.



This sample will be sent to the hospital to check for disease or infection.

A few weeks later you will get a letter with the results.



If the results show any changes to your cervix, the doctor will ask to see you again

**Remember** that it is your choice if you want to have sex or not.

You should never have sex if you don't want to.

January 2023