

Friday 10 November 2023 – NCSP Update: HPV Primary Screening New Roles and Responsibilities

Te Whatu Ora
Health New Zealand



National
Cervical
Screening
Programme

Introduction of new HPV screening workforce phase one.

We are pleased to announce, as part of a phased workforce expansion programme, that from **Thursday 16th November 2023**, Nurses, and Nurse Practitioners (who are not accredited cervical sample takers and who meet certain criteria) will be able to facilitate HPV self-testing.

People who undertake this role will be referred to as '**HPV Screen-takers**'. This includes enrolled nurses, registered nurses, and nurse practitioners who:

- hold a current NZ Annual Practising Certificate
- have a documented professional partnership with an accredited cervical sample taker who will be the responsible clinician.
- have completed the required training (below)

Preparing HPV Screen Takers for this role

In Aotearoa New Zealand, persons taking cervical screening specimens have legislated responsibilities in accordance with Part 4A of the Health Act 1956. Given the weight of these responsibilities cervical screening tests must be requested by a 'responsible clinician' who is an accredited cervical sample taker.

Ensuring HPV screen takers are supported, trained, and resourced appropriately, and have ongoing clinical support from a cervical sample taker (responsible clinician) is required.

HPV Screen taker Learning Pathway

HPV Screen takers must complete the following learning pathway prior to facilitating HPV self-testing with participants.

1. Establish a **professional partnership with a responsible clinician** who will be available to provide clinical support, take responsibility for results requiring follow-up or referral, and undertake follow up liquid-based cytology (LBC) sample taking.
2. Complete the **four NCSP Cervical Screening with Human Papillomavirus (HPV) testing training modules**: [module 1](#), [module 2](#), [module 3](#), [module 4](#)
3. Be familiar with the updated National Cervical Screening Programme Policies and Standards Section Three: Cervical Screening Services and the [Clinical Practice Guidelines for Cervical Screening in Aotearoa New Zealand](#).
4. Complete a professional partnership assessment and agreement with the nominated responsible clinician.

Helpful resources and support

Resources will be available on [the Understanding HPV Primary Screening webpage](#) from 16th November 2023 and will include:

- HPV Screen taker Learning Pathway
- Updated NCSP Section Three Policies and Standards for Cervical Screening Services
- Professional partnership assessment and agreement form
- HPV Screen taker Resources
- Webinar “Working in professional partnership for HPV screen takers and Responsible Clinicians” – save the date 16 November 7.00 pm. This webinar is aimed at both responsible clinicians and HPV screen takers this will be available to watch after the event.

Topic: Working in professional partnership for HPV screen takers and Responsible Clinicians

Time: Nov 16, 2023, 07:00 PM Auckland, Wellington

To join the Zoom meeting click the link below:

<https://mohznz.zoom.us/j/87292831435>

Meeting ID: 872 9283 1435

How can your service support this role?

- Accredited cervical sample takers (responsible clinician) who are comfortable to work in a professional partnership with colleagues who meet the HPV screen taker criteria can support wider and more

equitable access to HPV screening. Taking on these expanded roles and responsibilities is optional; and the professional partnership must be mutually agreed. Enrolled and Registered Nurses and Nurse Practitioners who do not have a professional partnership agreement cannot facilitate HPV self-testing.

- Allow time for training and upskilling of team members.
- Ensure the team has an operational process in place to support this role and to provide participants with a quality cervical screening experience.

What about other HPV workforce expansion roles?

A second phase approach is underway to support HPV Screening Kaimahi working in Screening Support Services to facilitate HPV self-testing.

More information

For further information, please see the [Understanding HPV Primary Screening](#) webpage or email hpvscreen@health.govt.nz

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HPV Primary Screening Project Team

National Cervical Screening Programme

Imēra: HPVScreen@health.govt.nz
Find us at www.timetoscreen.nz

The new cervical screening self-test keeps your privates private!

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