

**stop
cancer,
before it
starts**

Your smear test after treatment

**This leaflet tells you
about your smear test
following treatment.**

This leaflet provides information about what will happen after your cervical intraepithelial neoplasia (CIN) treatment.

What is CIN?

The human papilloma virus (HPV) is a common virus which is usually harmless, but can change cells in the cervix (neck of the womb). CIN is the name for changes found in the cells of the cervix. There are two grades of CIN – high grade and low grade.

What happens after CIN treatment?

You'll have a smear test about six months after your CIN treatment to check that it has been successful. It will be carried out at your GP practice or occasionally back at the colposcopy clinic where you had your treatment. The sample will check the cells from your cervix and test them for HPV.

Why am I being tested for HPV following treatment for CIN?

Women who have a test six months after treatment that shows normal cervical cells and no HPV (HPV negative) can safely return to routine smear testing.

Your test results

My letter says that I have no changes.

If HPV isn't found six months after treatment and there are no changes in the cells in your cervix, you will return to routine smear testing. This means that your previous CIN treatment has been successful.

My letter says that there were not enough cells.

Your smear test result may show that there were not enough cells in the sample for the lab to examine. This is common and you will be invited back for a repeat test in three months' time.

My letter says that I have changes.

If HPV is found six months after treatment and/or there are changes in the cells in your cervix, you will be invited back to the colposcopy clinic. But please remember that even though 1 in 5 women will be invited back to the colposcopy clinic, only a few will need more treatment. It can take longer than six months for your immune system to clear HPV after treatment.

For more information about HPV, CIN or smear tests you can talk to your practice nurse or the staff at the colposcopy clinic. There is also information on the NHS inform website at www.nhsinform.scot and the British Society for Colposcopy and Cervical Pathology website at www.bsccp.org.uk


Want to know more?

Talk to your nurse or GP, visit nhsinform.scot or call **0800 22 44 88** (textphone **18001 0800 22 44 88**). The helpline is open every day 8 am to 10 pm and also provides an interpreting service.

Jo's Cervical Cancer Trust: visit jostrust.org.uk or call **0808 802 8000**.

This resource may also be made available on request in the following formats:



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