

Press Release

20 January 2025

NHS is urging women to book cervical screening as 1 in 3 don't take up vital offer

Cervical Cancer is one of the most preventable cancers. Despite this, NHS Herefordshire and Worcestershire has reported a decline in those who attend preventative screenings, with women in their 20s and 30s least likely to book an appointment.

That's why Doctors across the two counties are urging those eligible to book their cervical screening, which can help stop cancer before it starts.

Women and people with a cervix aged 25-64 are eligible for a screening, which checks the health of your cervix, and acts as a preventative measure against cervical cancer. Women under 50 are reminded to make an appointment with their GP every three years. For those aged 50 to 64, it's every five years. Those registered as male will need to request a booking with their GP, as they will not be automatically invited to make an appointment

Anyone who qualifies for a test, but missed their last one, should contact their GP, and not wait for their next invite. Recent figures show that around a third fail to attend their cervical screenings. This puts people at greater risk of cancer.

Two women die every day from cervical cancer in England. Yet it is one of the most preventable cancers and getting screened can help stop it before it starts. It has been estimated that in England, screenings prevent 70% of cervical cancer deaths, and that if everyone attended screening regularly, that number would be up to 83%.

Dr Louise Bramble, GP and Women's Health Lead for NHS Herefordshire and Worcestershire said:

"For most people, cervical screening tests are not painful. But if you are worried that you may find the test uncomfortable, remember you are in control and can ask your clinician to stop at any time. Cervical screening takes only a few minutes but can save your life. Don't delay in contacting your GP surgery to book your screening if you are eligible."

Video Clips of Dr. Louise Bramble from Chaddesley Corbett GP Surgery for media use:

[Dr. Louise Bramble on Cervical Screenings - part 1 Jan 2025](#)

[Dr. Louise Bramble on Cervical Screenings - part 2 Jan 2025](#)

ENDS

Notes to editors:

For more information about NHS Herefordshire and Worcestershire ICB please visit <https://herefordshireandworcestershire.icb.nhs.uk>

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