

Spotting cancer early saves lives



EasyRead version

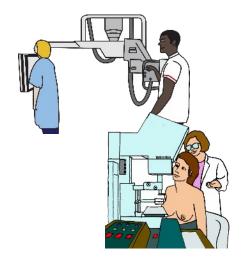




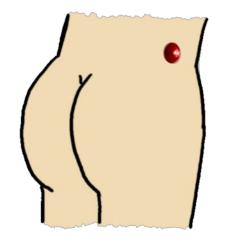
This leaflet tells you about some of the signs of cancer and what to look out for.



It also gives tips on seeing your doctor and information about screening.



Screening is when you have an X-ray or other tests to check for cancer.



If you spot something unusual with your body it is probably nothing serious.



But if it is cancer, spotting it early means you are much more likely to get better.



This leaflet is an EasyRead version of another leaflet about spotting cancer early.



You might like to have someone with you to support you when you look at this leaflet.

Know your body



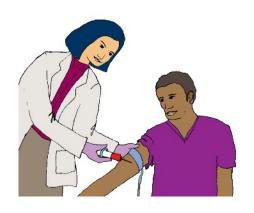
Knowing your body means getting to know what is normal for you.



This will help you spot any changes to how your body looks and feels and how you feel in yourself.



You should see your doctor if you spot anything new and not normal for you or something that does not go away.



Remember these signs are usually not cancer but you should always get your doctor to check.

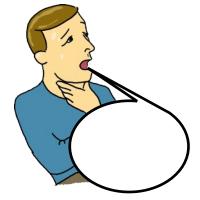


Here are some examples of changes. But if your change is not on the list you should still get it checked by your doctor.

being out of breath



being very sweaty at night



a croaky voice that does not go away



 heartburn or indigestion that does not go away



 ulcers in your mouth or on your tongue that you have had for more than 3 weeks



 bloating or feeling swollen in your tummy for a long time



problems swallowing



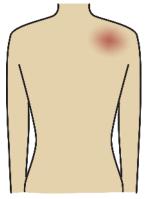
 any changes when you go to the toilet, such as blood in poo or pee, or problems peeing



not feeling hungry



losing weight for no reason



 a new mole on your skin, or changes to a mole, or changes on your skin which do not go away



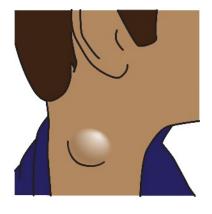
coughing up blood



a cough that does not go away



 an ache or pain that you cannot explain



 an unusual lump or swelling anywhere.



And if you are a woman:

bleeding when you are not having your period



• changes in the size, shape or feel of your breast or nipple.

Talk to your doctor



If you are worried something is wrong you should talk to your doctor.



This can be a bit scary so here are some ideas to help you:

 tell the doctor about everything that does not feel normal for you

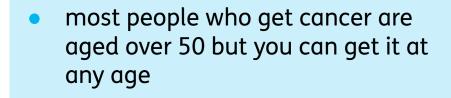


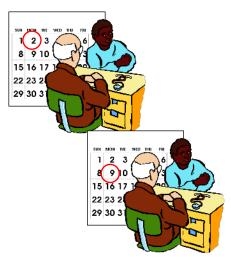
 tell them even if it does not seem important or is a bit embarrassing



 make sure you tell the doctor about all your signs







 if you see the doctor once but still think something is wrong, go back and see them again



 you are not wasting anyone's time by going to see your doctor

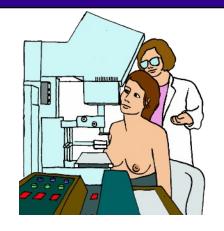


 before you see the doctor, think about what you want to talk to them about and make a note of what you want to ask



 you may want someone to help you with this or to go to the doctor with you.

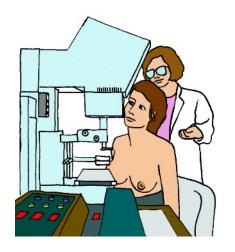
Keep a look out for your screening invitation



Screening is a test, like an X-ray, which checks for cancer.



It is for people who are healthy and do not have any signs of cancer, to try to catch it early.



There are free screening checks for 3 types of cancer:

breast



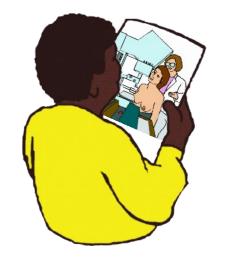
bowel



cervical (inside your vagina near your womb).



You need to be registered with a doctor to be asked to go for screening.



It is up to you if you want to be screened. You will get information with your invitation to help you decide if you want to be screened.



You will be asked if you want to go for different screening tests at different ages.



You can find out when you will be invited for screening at: www.cruk.org/screening



Even if you have been screened, you should still tell your doctor if you notice something which is not normal for you.

How to find out more



You can find out more about spotting cancer early and screening on our website at:

www.cruk.org/spotcancerearly



Or you can speak to our nurses on: 0808 800 4040



We hope you have found this leaflet helpful. If you would like to tell us what you think about this leaflet you can call 020 3469 8333 or email: publications@cancer.org.uk



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