

Lab update

Reminder to all sample takers in GP surgeries to use their correct NNUH CSTD ID. Each laboratory issues their own CSTD IDs - there is currently not a National Cervical Sample Taker Database.

In Extended Access setting - please use printed CSMS request forms, not hand written forms. Please can all sample takers also make sure they are using the labels printed from the ICE-NI system in the first instance. If this is not available legible hand written labels are acceptable.

If a patient is HIV positive - please write this clearly on the request form as this helps the Lab to add the correct management.

If a request is made in error in ICE & there is no sample being sent, please delete the ICE request.

Digital invitations and reminder communications are now being issued via the NHS App.

If a digital invitation / reminder is not possible, a letter will be posted.

Please encourage everyone to download the NHS app and enable notifications: www.nhs.uk/nhs-app/

Please be aware that if you add a patients cervical screening result to their clinical record this may show on the patients NHS App. There is a risk that the patients will see this information before they receive their result letter, which may cause unnecessary concern.

HMR101 Forms

On all forms (ICE-NI request forms, HMR101 forms, and blank forms) please always state in 'clinical details' anything specific that needs to be highlighted to the cytology lab e.g. for a transgender patient.

Please also highlight 'Retroviral' (RVI) e.g. HIV if required, as their screening intervals will be different.

Please note an address is always needed even if the result is getting delivered to the NHS App!

Blank forms should only be used if there is no other option (e.g. an IT issue).

Mentors for Trainee sample takers

Mentors must be practising sample takers with at least 12 months continuous experience, having taken at least 50 cervical samples following completion of their own initial training. Mentors must have effective communication skills and ideally hold a relevant mentoring and, or teaching qualification.

The training provider makes sure the mentor understands the role, is sufficiently prepared to carry it out and supported for the duration of the training programme.

Unlabelled vials

A large volume of samples have been rejected by the NNUH lab since September 2024. Some of these rejected samples have been sent in unlabelled vials. 660 samples were also rejected for being taken too early. Please review ALL patients on the the CSMS database before taking a sample.

2025	Oct	Nov	Dec
OOP	36	26	53
UV	42	51	35
OOD	15	9	6

OOP—out of programme/**UV** -unlabelled Vials//**OOD**—Out of date vials

Calling all GP staff – share experience of delivering HPV catch-up service for 16-24 year olds ([five-minute survey](#))

NHS England's Vaccination Digital Team are undertaking work to better understand general practices' experiences of delivering the HPV catch-up service for 16–24-year-olds, including what works well and what could be improved. The findings will inform future plans and the technology used to support vaccination delivery.

General practices are invited [General practices are invited to share their feedback by completing a five-minute survey.](#)

Transgender and non-binary people who have a cervix are still eligible for cervical screening but may not be sent routine invitations. They can 'opt in' to receive cervical screening invitations routinely.

[Complete and submit the gender opt-in form](#) on the CSAS support page for transgender and non-binary patients who would like to receive cervical screening invitations.

The form includes information for patients that you can print out and provide.

[NHS England — East of England » Latest news](#)

[Education pathway - GOV.UK](#)

[Cervical Screening Platform HMR101 Form](#)

[Cervical Screening Platform | Cervical Screening Management System](#)

[Cervical screening care pathway - GOV.UK](#) **Please review this guidance for the Untreated CIN1 pathways**