12 July 2021

Dear Colleague,

New NHS Cervical Screening Management System

We are writing to make you aware that the NHS will be implementing a new cervical screening management system on 30 October 2021. This system will replace the current call/recall IT system for cervical screening, which sits on the National Health Application and Infrastructure Services (NHAIS) platform (sometimes called the Exeter system) and is accessed by the Open Exeter system.

NHS Digital has been commissioned by NHSX to develop and implement the new system. Over the coming months we will be working closely with local organisations to help them prepare for the switchover. We have already written to Registration Authorities, regional NHSEI Public Health Commissioning teams and IT managers to inform them of this change.

What steps can you take to support us with these important changes?

You and your organisation can begin preparing for the transition to the new NHS Cervical Screening Management System now by taking the following actions:

1. Access our implementation guides to understand your organisation's requirements
We are developing a range of training resources which will be available for staff using the new system. This will include webinars, published user guides and online events. We encourage all users to access the latest information online which will have information relating directly to your specific role and organisation about the following topics:

- The main changes impacting staff
- System access and IT requirements
- Communications and engagement
- Business processes

- Training guidance
- Pre go-live checklists
- Post go-live support

2. Set up your NHS smartcards before 1 September 2021
Access to the new system will be via an NHS smartcard only. This will replace access via an Open Exeter username and password. All staff working in NHS cervical screening services will need to have an NHS Smartcard with the correct role and workgroup profile.

If you are a Practice Manager, Colposcopy Service Programme Lead or a Service Manager then it is recommended that you contact your local Registration Authority lead on behalf of any potential users of the new NHS Cervical Screening Management System to ensure smartcards have been updated and users have been assigned to a workgroup.

Staff who do not currently have an NHS smartcard should contact their local registration authority to apply for one. Please use the guidance we have developed to ensure smartcards have been updated by the deadline.

3. Update your devices with the latest software by 1 September 2021
To access the new system, additional software will need to be installed on your devices. Your IT department should already be aware of this however we would encourage you to check with your IT lead to find out when this update will be actioned by your organisation. Please follow our guidance to find out more about the IT requirements.

We want to work with all users of the new NHS Cervical Screening Management System so the transition can be as smooth as possible. We will continue to update the website with new information and issue direct messages to users between now and October.

If you have any other questions or concerns about the new system please contact NHS Digital by email via screening.implementation@nhs.net and a member of the team will get back to you.

We would like to thank you in advance for your support with these important changes and we look forward to working with you and your team to implement the new system.

Kind regards,

Peter Dyke
Programme Head for Cervical Screening
NHS Digital