

You can contact the Practice Nurse Secretaries on:

CONTACT DETAILS

 **01924 351632**

Direct line to Practice Nurse Secretaries

Sarah Abbott & Andrea Wimpenny

Monday to Friday

You can also contact them on our main Practice line:

01924 351520 (select option 4)

Please feel that you can speak to your Doctor, Advanced Nurse Practitioner or Practice Nurse with any concerns or questions you may have – please don't feel that your question is too basic or too silly our team are here to answer your questions and help you to make informed choices.

FURTHER HELP AND INFORMATION

Should you have any concerns regarding anything to do with your smear test please do not hesitate to contact the surgery.

Online resources are available at:

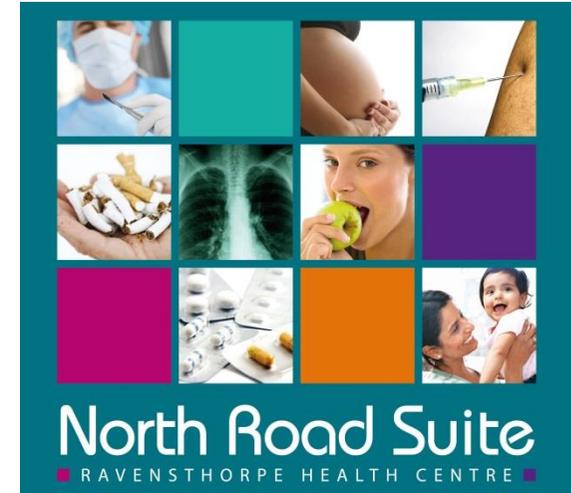
www.cancerscreening.nhs.uk/cervical/index.html

Comprehensive patient resources are available at:

www.patient.co.uk

DISCLAIMER

This leaflet is for information only and should not be used for the diagnosis or treatment of medical conditions. We have used all reasonable care in compiling the information but make no warranty as to its accuracy. Consult a doctor or other health care professional for diagnosis and treatment of medical conditions.



What you should know about....

Your Cervical Smear Test

Dr. Natarajan Chandra. MB BS FRCS D.Occ.Med MRCGP
Dr. Srinivasan Nagarajan. MB BS FRCS MS (Gen Surg)
Dr. Sharmala Ramalingam. MB BS DRCOG MRCGP DFFP
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Tel: 01924 351520 Fax: 01924 452998

Thank you for attending your cervical smear test on <Today's date>

Which was obtained by

The result will be sent directly to your home address and to the Practice within 2–3 weeks.

IMPORTANT: If you have not heard anything by this date: _____

Please contact the surgery

on 01924 351632 which is the direct line to the Practice Nurse Secretaries.

YOUR RESULTS

About 9 in 10 routine cervical screening tests are normal. If the result is negative (normal) then you will be invited for your next smear in 3 years if you are under 50 years old, or in 5 years if you are over 50 years old.

If the result is negative, but you are being followed up from previous abnormalities, then you will be invited to attend in 6 or another 12 months.

In 1–2% of ladies the sample may be reported as 'INADEQUATE' and you will need to return for your smear test to be repeated in 3 months. It can mean there were not enough cells gathered for them to test. It is NOT an indication of an abnormality.

WHAT IF IT'S AN ABNORMAL RESULT?

1 in 10 tests show some abnormality. If your test shows an abnormality it is important to remember that it is VERY RARE for these abnormalities to be cancer.

Some abnormal changes are quite common. They often return to normal on their own and most mild changes do not progress to anything serious.

However, any changes need to be monitored as some may progress to become more serious in the future. Currently, cervical screening tests showing borderline or mild abnormality will be tested for Human Papilloma Virus (HPV).

HPV is a common virus which approximately 80% of women will have been exposed to at some point in their sexually active lives.

It rarely causes any symptoms and most women will be unaware they have had it as the body's immune system will have cleared it.

However some persistent strains of HPV have been linked to cervical cancer and this is why HPV testing is so beneficial.

FOLLOW UP

If HPV is found on the cervical screening test a referral to the Colposcopy Clinic will be automatically made.

A colposcopy is a simple examination of the cervix using a colposcope (large magnifying glass). It is usual to take a small piece of the tissue from the cervix (biopsy) to make a more detailed assessment of the cells.

You will be sent an appointment by post to your home address along with more detailed assessment about the clinic test.

IT IS VERY IMPORTANT THAT YOU ATTEND YOUR RECOMMENDED FOLLOW UP.