

IIW CERVICAL CANCER CAMPAIGN



WORLDWIDE INNER WHEEL PROJECTS THAT WILL
STOP CERVICAL CANCER AMONG WOMEN AND GIRLS.



WORLDWIDE FACTS

Cervical cancer is the 4th most common cancer. Mortality is high due mainly to diagnosis at the late stages of the disease, as well as the frequently unavailable, inaccessible, or non-affordable treatment. Yet, cervical cancer is the only cancer that is preventable with early detection through screening and HPV vaccination.



ABOUT CERVICAL CANCER

Cervical cancer is cancer of the cervix, which is the lower part of the uterus or womb.

Cervical cancer develops slowly over time, usually taking many years, when abnormal cells grow on the cervix. These abnormal cells are caused by infection with high-risk types of HPV.

Abnormalities in the cells of the cervix can be detected by cervical screening and removed. Each year there are around 25,000 abnormal smear test results among New Zealand women.

- **Without** cervical screening, about **one out of 90** women will develop cervical cancer and **one out of 200** will die from it.
- **With** cervical screening, about **one out of 570** will develop cervical cancer, and one **out of 1280** will die from it.

*Regular **three-yearly** cervical smear tests are recommended for all women aged 20 to 70 who have ever been sexually active.*

NZ FACTS

In New Zealand, about 160 women develop cervical cancer each year – and about 50 die from it.



CERVICAL SCREENING

A woman's best protection against developing cervical cancer is having regular cervical screening.



A cervical screening test finds abnormal changes in the cells of the cervix. Having regular tests can **reduce a woman's risk of developing cervical cancer by 90%.**

NZ SUPPORT CHARITIES FOR WOMEN'S CANCERS

The Cancer Society

www.cancer.org.nz/cancer/types-of-cancer/cervical-cancer/

Look Good Feel Better

www.lgfb.co.nz

Talk Peach

www.talkpeach.org.nz/gynaecological-cancer/cervical-cancer

NZ Gynaecological Cancer Foundation

www.nzgcf.org.nz/pages/cervical-cancer-nz



CERVICAL SCREENING IN NZ

Options for screening include a doctor or practice nurse, Family Planning, or community health services such as Māori health services, Pacific health services, women's health services, or screening support services. Some Māori and Pacific providers and community and primary health organisations offer a free or low cost service.

Changes to cells in the cervix happen very slowly – so by having regular screening, there is a very high likelihood that any abnormal cells will be found and treated long before they become cancer.

- The National Cervical Screening Programme recommends cervical screening every 3 years.
- People who have previously had abnormal tests may need to have them more often – if you're unsure, ask your health provider.

To find out more about the cervical screening programme, talk to your doctor, practice nurse or health clinic, or visit the Time to Screen website- www.timetoscreen.nz/cervical-screening.

CERVICAL CANCER IS ONE OF THE EASIEST CANCERS TO PREVENT

– AS LONG AS WE DETECT THE CELL CHANGES THAT CAUSE IT, EARLY.

AND GUESS WHAT? NEW ZEALAND HAS ONE OF THE BEST CERVICAL SCREENING PROGRAMMES IN THE WORLD TO HELP YOU.

HOW CAN YOUR CLUB HELP?

IIW President Ebe invites all IW Clubs to participate in this campaign to educate and empower women. Using this information, you are able to share, educate and encourage all women to ensure they participate in the cervical screen programme we have in NZ.