

Cervical Screening

Cervical screening can detect changes before they become cancer.

Cervical cancer is cancer that starts in the neck of the womb. The neck of the womb is called the cervix. Cervical screening is a way of preventing cancer by finding and treating early changes in the cervix before they become cancer.

Cervical screening is offered to women every 3 years from age 24 until age 49. From age 50 until age 64 women will be invited every 5 years. You will automatically be offered screening if you are registered with a GP.

Those over 74 can still request screening.

⇒ the screening test involves taking a sample of cells from the surface of the cervix

⇒ once these are tested you should receive the results of your test back to your GP surgery, usually within 2 weeks of having the test

Cancer Screening

Screening saves thousands of lives each year by detecting changes before they become cancer.

There are three cancer screening programmes in England:

- ⇒ breast screening
- ⇒ bowel screening
- ⇒ cervical screening

This leaflet gives you some information to make it easier for you to decide whether to have screening or not.



Screening Facts

Cancer screening involves testing healthy people for signs of disease. Cancer screening saves thousands of lives each year. It can detect cancers at an early stage and even prevent cancers from developing.

Whether or not to go for screening is your choice. You should read the information you are sent with your screening invitation to help you make an informed decision, and ask your doctor if you need help.

⇒ screening can detect cancer early when it is much more treatable

⇒ cancer screening can prevent some cancers developing in the first place

⇒ cancer screening is free and easy to access

This leaflet has been developed for the Women's Activity Centre in Halifax. The Centre offers both therapeutic & social care to ladies who are 50 plus years. They provide a wide range of services and a high standard of care, but also encourage service users to maintain a healthy and independent living.



01422 252 447
info@waccic.com
www.waccic.com



Hope St, Halifax HX1 5DY



Bowel Cancer

Bowel cancer screening aims to detect cancer early so it can be treated.

Bowel cancer, also known as colorectal cancer or colon cancer is any cancer that affects the colon (large bowel) and rectum (back passage).

Men & women aged between 60 & 74 are eligible. As long as you are registered with a GP you will automatically be offered screening at age 60 and then every two years until aged 74.

Those over 74 can still request screening.

○
Bowel cancer can be fatal

○
Screening aims to detect bowel cancer early

○
Treatment given early is much more likely to work

Breast Cancer

Breast cancer is a malignant tumour that starts in the cells of the breast. A malignant tumour is a group of cancer cells that can grow into surrounding tissues or spread to distant areas of the body.



Women aged between 50 and 70 will be called for screening every 3 years. As long as you are registered with a GP you will automatically be sent an invite through the post when you are eligible.

Women aged over 70 can still be screened on request.

○
Breast cancer screening uses a test called mammography which involves taking X-rays of the breasts

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Breast cancer is much more treatable if detected early.