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CERVICAL SCREENING

Thank you for attending for your smear test. The test is designed only to check for any changes at the neck of the womb and not for anything else.

Please make sure that the surgery has your correct address and phone number whilst you are here. It is important that if you move outside the practice area you register with another GP as soon as possible so that your result may be forwarded.

The sample will be sent to the local laboratory where it will be processed and examined by specially trained personnel. This may often take between 4 and 6 weeks.

You will receive a copy of your result by post directly from the local screening authority. Please do not assume that your result is normal until you have seen it in writing. If you fail to hear anything within 8 weeks please contact the surgery.

You will be informed of any abnormalities. These are usually minor and a repeat test may be all that is required but your result letter will advise you about the action needed. Please contact the surgery if you are concerned or require further information or advice. If your result indicates the need for referral to a gynaecologist for further investigation, this will be arranged by the laboratory and you will be informed directly.

Most women have a normal result. If your result is normal but you later notice any changes such as a discharge or unexpected bleeding please make an appointment to see a GP or practice nurse.

We hope this information is helpful. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you need any additional information or advice.