



Cervical Cancer – Signs, Symptoms, Screening

**Do you know
the symptoms of
cervical cancer?**


The most common symptoms include:




Vaginal bleeding that is unusual for you – after menopause, between regular periods or after sex.



Unexplained pain in your lower back or between your hip bones (pelvis).



Pain or discomfort during sex.



Changes to vaginal discharge.

These symptoms are not usually cervical cancer, but it's important to contact your GP and get them checked out. Don't wait for cervical screening (a smear test).

If your GP asks you to go into the surgery, don't worry – they have measures in place to keep you safe from coronavirus.

For more information or support, call our Helpline on 0808 802 8000 or visit [jostrust.org.uk/symptoms](https://www.jostrust.org.uk/symptoms)

Jo's cervical cancer trust

- Cervical screening is a quick test to check the cervix (neck of the womb) for the Human Papilloma Virus (HPV), the main cause of cervical cancer. It's a test which saves lives.
- In Scotland, cervical screening is routinely offered to anyone with a cervix between the ages of 25 and 64 every 5 years.
- HPV is really common and usually clears on its own but about 1 in 10 infections are harder to get rid of.
- Testing for HPV is an effective and accurate way to identify those at risk of developing cervical cancer (the way samples are taken has not changed).
- There are lots of ways to make the test more comfortable including asking to book a longer or double appointment.
- Having both the HPV vaccination and cervical screening will reduce the number of people with cervical cancer.

Cervical Screening – Sources of information and support



- www.jostrust.org.uk UK's leading Cervical Cancer Charity. Lots of information and resources including animations can be downloaded free of charge from the website.
- NHS Inform website www.nhsinform.scot provides information about all screening programmes including cervical within the Tests and Treatments section of their website.
- Cancer Research UK website www.cancerresearchuk.org provides access to a wide range of cancer resources & information.
- Cervical Cancer Prevention Week takes place in January and Cervical Screening Awareness Week in June each year. For more info www.jostrust.org.uk