

# CYTOLOGY SCREENING

**You'll be sent an invitation letter in the post when it's time to book your cervical screening appointment.**

Cervical screening (a smear test) checks the health of your cervix.

All women and people with a cervix aged 25 to 64 should be invited by letter.

During the screening appointment, a small sample of cells will be taken from your cervix. The sample is tested for changes to the cells of your cervix.

Finding abnormal changes early means they can be monitored or treated so they do not get a chance to turn into cervical cancer.

You'll get your results by letter, usually in about 2 weeks.

Please call us on **01228 529171** to book an appointment or book online.

# BREAST SCREENING

**About 1 in 8 women in the UK are diagnosed with breast cancer during their lifetime. If it's detected early, treatment is more successful and there's a good chance of recovery.**

Breast screening aims to find breast cancers early. It uses an [X-ray](#) test called a mammogram that can spot cancers when they're too small to see or feel.

Breast screening is offered to women aged 50 to their 71st birthday in England.

You'll first be invited for screening within 3 years of your 50th birthday.

You may be eligible for breast screening before the age of 50 if you have a very high risk of developing breast cancer.

If you're 71 or over, you'll stop receiving screening invitations.

If you have missed your invite or appointment please call **01946 523370**

# DIABETIC RETINAL SCREENING

Eye screening is a key part of your diabetes care. If you have diabetes, your eyes are at risk of damage from diabetic retinopathy, a condition that can lead to sight loss if it's not treated. Diabetic retinopathy is one of the most common causes of sight loss among people of working age. However, you may not know that you have diabetic retinopathy as it does not usually cause any noticeable symptoms in the early stages.

Screening is a way of detecting the condition early before you notice any changes to your vision. If retinopathy is detected early enough, treatment can stop it getting worse. Otherwise, by the time symptoms become noticeable, it can be much more difficult to treat. This is why the NHS Diabetic Eye Screening Programme was introduced. Everyone aged 12 and over with diabetes is offered screening once a year. The check takes about half an hour and involves examining the back of the eyes and taking photographs of the retina.

Please contact the eye screening service on **0845 0500109** to make your appointment at your earliest convenience.

# BOWEL CANCER SCREENING

Bowel cancer is a common type of cancer in both men and women. About 1 in 20 people will get it during their lifetime. Screening can help detect bowel cancer at an early stage, when it's easier to treat. It can also be used to help check for and remove small growths in the bowel called [polyps](#), which can turn into cancer over time.

NHS bowel cancer screening is only offered to people aged 60 or over, as this is when you're more likely to get bowel cancer:

We are keen that you do not miss out on this important protection and recommend you contact the Bowel Cancer Screening Programme on **0800 707 60 60** to arrange this.

# ABDOMINAL AORTIC ANEURYSM SCREENING (AAA SCREENING)

In England, screening for AAA is offered to men during the year they turn 65.

If you're a man and you're registered with a GP, you'll get a screening invitation in the post when you're 64 or soon after your 65th birthday. You can then arrange an appointment that suits you.

An AAA will often cause few or no obvious symptoms, but if it's left to get bigger, it could burst and cause life-threatening bleeding inside your tummy.

About 8 in every 10 people who have a burst AAA die before they get to hospital or do not survive emergency surgery to repair it.

The screening test is very quick, painless and reliable. Research suggests it can halve the risk of dying from an AAA.

We are keen that you do not miss out on this important protection and recommend you

contact the AAA Screening Programme on **01914 452554**