



The cervical screening process

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Summary

Screening

Success depends upon:

- High coverage
- A test that is reliable with a high sensitivity and a high specificity
- Proven methods of treatment/counselling
- Cost effectiveness

NHS Cervical Screening Programme

This aims to reduce the incidence and mortality of cervical cancer by detecting and treating potentially precancerous lesions of the cervix. It is delivered by multiple services including:

- Call and recall
- Sample takers and primary care
- Cytology and histology laboratories
- Colposcopy

All of these are of equal importance for the success of the programme.