

Cervical Screening Test (CST) Guide

The cervical screening test (CST) is now an HPV test collected into a ThinPrep vial. Liquid based cytology (LBC) will be also be performed if the HPV test is positive (reflex) or as a co-test when the patient is symptomatic or has previous screening history as outlined in the National Cervical Screening Program Guidelines.

Request forms must specify the test type (see below) PLUS the reason for the test with supporting clinical notes.

REASON FOR TEST	WHAT TO REQUEST	WHEN TO REQUEST
SCREENING	CST or Cervical Screening Test	Age 25-74
	CST - Immune deficient	Immune-deficient women who have an HPV test in which oncogenic HPV types are not detected should be screened every 3 years with an HPV test
	CST - Early debut	Women who had an early sexual debut (< 14 years of age) and were not vaccinated prior to sexual debut may be considered for a single HPV test between the ages of 20 and 24.
INVESTIGATION AND FOLLOW UP	Co-test, Symptomatic	Detail symptom e.g., Abnormal bleeding – PCB, IMB or PMB. For details refer: www.cancerscreening.gov.au/cervical
	Co-test, Test of cure	Follow up after previous high-grade squamous intraepithelial lesion (HSIL). Annual co-test until “test of cure” complete following two negative HPV and LBC tests 12 months apart.
	Co-test, Previous AIS	Women who have been treated for AIS should have an annual co-test
	Co-test, DES	Women who have been exposed to diethylstilbestrol (DES) should be offered an annual co-test
	LBC	Following a positive HPV test in self-collect sample or at time of colposcopy
	CST - Follow up	12 Month follow up of previous positive HPV test
IN PATIENTS WITH TOTAL HYSTERECTOMY	Vaginal vault HPV	Women whose hysterectomy showed no evidence of pathology and the patient’s screening history is not available.
	Vaginal vault Co-test	Women whose hysterectomy specimen showed unexpected low-grade squamous intraepithelial lesions (LSIL) or HSIL, or there is a known history of HSIL for the patient and they are undergoing surveillance before exiting the screening program.
SELF-COLLECT Use red top COPAN flocced swab 552C	CST, Self-collect	Women aged ≥ 30 years who have never been screened OR are at least 2 years overdue for screening AND refuse a speculum examination.
	Self-collect follow-up	Follow up test 12 months after HPV detected on a SELF-COLLECT sample
REPEAT TEST FOLLOWING UNSATISFACTORY TESTING	HPV, Previous unsatisfactory	Previous HPV test was unsatisfactory.
	LBC, Previous unsatisfactory	Previous LBC test was unsatisfactory.

For further information please contact 4Cyte Pathology on 13 42 98 and request the Cytology department or refer to the NCSP Guidelines. https://wiki.cancer.org.au/australia/Guidelines:Cervical_cancer/Screening.

Routine Cervical Screening Pathway

