

SAMPLE TAKING PROVIDERS

Women who are eligible and due for cervical screening should be offered appointments.

Providers should note that they are responsible for determining local arrangements for use of personal protective equipment (PPE). This will be informed by national guidance for use of PPE by health and social care workers on COVID-19

[https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/wuhan-novel-coronavirus-infection-prevention-and-control/covid-19-personal-protective-equipment-ppe-and-recommended PPE for primary, outpatient and community care](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/wuhan-novel-coronavirus-infection-prevention-and-control/covid-19-personal-protective-equipment-ppe-and-recommended-ppe-for-primary-outpatient-and-community-care)

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/877599/T2_Recommended PPE for primary outpatient and community care by setting poster.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/877599/T2_Recommended_PPE_for_primary_outpatient_and_community_care_by_setting_poster.pdf)

1. Prioritisation Groups

- **People invited but not screened and people with a delayed invitation**

Invitation and reminder letters will begin being issued from the beginning of June 2020. Over the next 3 to 4 months, the invitation and reminder letters that have previously been held back will be added back into the system incrementally so there may be more individuals than usual requesting a screening test over the catch up period. Individuals with delayed invitations for surveillance are being prioritised for letter production.

- **People invited for routine screening (due or overdue)**

Individuals who request screening should be offered an appointment.

Primary care providers should review their local records or use final non-responder lists to identify individuals whose screening may have been affected by COVID-19 (for example, their appointment has been cancelled and not been rebooked, they have been refused an appointment during the pandemic response, or they have not responded to a reminder letter) and be proactive in contacting them about their screening and giving them opportunity to attend.

Primary care providers should only defer individuals for screening in accordance with programme guidance and may not use the deferral process to postpone invitations for any other reason. The “practice invitation” reason for delaying screening that may have been used initially in the early part of the COVID-19 response, should no longer be used.

2. Older women

Some older women who are due, or became overdue in the last 6 months, for their final routine screen may have had limited opportunity to make that appointment due to COVID-19. These are women who are aged between 59 and 64 and they remain eligible to be tested.

Records should be carefully checked to ensure they have the opportunity to attend for this last routine screening test. Final non-responder lists can be used to help with this. Proactive contact could be made to check the woman’s intentions in relation to her screening. Where there is any concern that the laboratory may not accept the test due to the age of the woman, the sample request should be marked as “test delayed due to COVID-19”.

If you have any queries then please contact england.wessexph@nhs.net