

## CervicalCheck Moves to Screening by Invitation

## What is a smear test?

CervicalCheck – The National Cervical Screening Programme provides free smear tests to women aged 25 to 60. A smear test is a simple procedure that only takes minutes, and is the most effective way to detect changes in the cells of the cervix. CervicalCheck has a register (list) of women aged 25 to 60.

Over the next three years, CervicalCheck will send every eligible woman on the register who has not yet had a free CervicalCheck smear test a letter of invitation by post.

## Who can have a free smear test?

From 1 September 2009, women who have not yet had a free CervicalCheck smear test can make an appointment when they receive their letter of invitation. With an invitation letter, a woman can have a smear test with any Smeartaker (GP or practice nurse) registered with CervicalCheck. GPs, Women's Health, Family Planning and Well Woman Clinics all over Ireland are registered to take smear tests.

A woman who has already had a CervicalCheck smear test is advised by the Programme when her next smear test is due.

## What if I have not had a smear test in the last three years?

Any woman who has not had a smear test in the last three years can opt-in and request an invitation letter from CervicalCheck by registering online at www.cervicalcheck.ie, completing and returning a Freepost form, or by calling CervicalCheck on Freephone 1800 45 45 55.

For more information www.cervicalcheck.ie Freephone 1800 45 45 55



