

Cervical screening for immunosuppressed women

Not all women who are immunosuppressed will require annual cervical screening. However, there are occasions when a screening test is advised outside of the normal intervals.

HIV infection:

- Women are eligible for annual programme screening from the time of their HIV diagnosis and/or when appropriate after their first sexual encounter.
- Cervical screening should be performed within one year of HIV diagnosis and /or when appropriate after their first sexual encounter.
- HIV positive women will be referred to colposcopy if HPV positive.

Renal failure requiring dialysis / about to undergo renal transplant / post renal transplant:

- A screening test is required at or shortly after diagnosis of renal failure, regardless of age.
- Women about to undergo renal transplant should have had a cervical screening test within the year prior to transplant.
- Further management of these cohorts is governed by the HPV primary screening eligibility algorithm.

There is no indication for increased surveillance of the following groups:

- Women receiving cytotoxic drugs for rheumatological disorders
- Women receiving cytotoxic chemotherapy for non-genital cancers
- Women receiving long term biologic agents
- Women receiving oestrogen antagonists such as tamoxifen

Note: These women should have cervical screening according to the HPV primary screening eligibility algorithm