



# Going for a Cervical Screening Test

## A Plain English Story



Jane gets a letter in the post from CervicalCheck.

The letter is about an appointment for a cervical screening test.

This test checks the health of your cervix.

It can protect you from cancer of the cervix.

The cervix is the opening to your womb from your vagina.

Jane talks to her friend Ann about the letter and the test.

She decides that she would like to have the test.

Jane phones her doctor to book an appointment for her test.

It is best to have the cervical screening test when you are not having your period.

Jane does not have to go to her own doctor.

She can look at the CervicalCheck website for another place to have the test in her county.

[www.cervicalcheck.ie](http://www.cervicalcheck.ie)

Jane can phone CervicalCheck if she needs more support to have the test.

She can phone for free 1800 45 45 55

She can email [info@cervicalcheck.ie](mailto:info@cervicalcheck.ie)

If you have access needs, you can phone us before your appointment. We can help you decide the best place to have your cervical screening test.

There is a list of accessible GP clinics on the CervicalCheck website.

Jane goes to the medical centre on the day of the test.

Her friend Ann comes with her.

You can get public transport to most medical centres.

There is parking at most medical centres too.

Jane gives her name to the person at the reception desk.

Jane and Ann sit in the waiting room.

Jane's name is called. She meets the nurse who will take her cervical screening test.

Jane goes into the room where the test will take place.

Ann can come in with Jane, or she can go on her own if she prefers.

The nurse checks they have the information they need about Jane.

Jane is asked to sign a consent form.

When you give consent, you agree to have the test.

Jane can ask questions about the test.

The nurse gives Jane privacy so she can get ready for the test.

She needs to take off her clothes from the waist down.

Jane lies on her back or her side on the bed.

Ann sits at the top of the bed.

Ann can wait outside if Jane prefers.

The nurse puts a plastic tube into Jane's vagina.

This might feel a bit cold.

This tube helps her to see Jane's cervix.

She might use a torch to help her see too.

The nurse uses a small soft brush to take a sample of cells from Jane's cervix.

The nurse is very gentle.

Jane does not feel any pain.

She can say if she feels pain and the nurse will help make her more comfortable.

The test only takes a few minutes.

Jane can get down from the bed.

The nurse puts the sample into a bottle.

This bottle is closed.

The sample is sent to a laboratory to be tested.

The nurse fills out a form to go with the sample.

Jane can go home.

She does not have to pay for the cervical screening test.

Jane will get her results in the post in around 4 weeks.

Her doctor will get a copy of her results too.

# More information

[www.cervicalcheck.ie](http://www.cervicalcheck.ie)

Phone us free on 1800 45 45 55

