

Free Cervical Smears and Mobile clinics

We are now offering:

- **Mobile van** clinics throughout Auckland at Work and Incomes, shopping malls and alongside BSA mobile vans.
- See www.wons.org.nz for the van schedule.
- WONS can come to you if you have more than 4 women due for a cervical smear test
- **Criteria** for a free cervical smear is Maori, Pacific and Asian women 20 to 69 years who are due a smear; European women who are over 30 years and not had a smear in 5 years.
- Set clinics remain in all Auckland areas.

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Did you know?

Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) and cervical cancer

Most people come into contact with HPV at some stage during their life. Most HPV infections clear by themselves, but some high risk types can cause cell changes on the cervix that may lead to cervical cancer 10 to 20 years after the infection. It is very commonly passed on by sexual contact, with an estimated 80% having had contact at some stage in their life.

A woman's best protection against developing cervical cancer is having regular three yearly cervical smear tests every three years from ages 20 to 69 years, stopping at 70 years.

Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) testing is now available

Women who have had treatment for high grade cell changes of the cervix are now able to have a free HPV test one year apart. This is done at the time of the annual smear using the same sample. If the smear and HPV test are negative two years apart, you can go back to three yearly cervical smears.

For women over 30 years who have low grade cell changes, an HPV test is routinely performed. If this is positive she will be referred to colposcopy services for more investigations. If negative a repeat smear in one year occurs. If this is negative she returns to three yearly smears.

This test is a major breakthrough in the management of abnormal cell changes of the cervix. It is not routinely performed

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