



Cervical sampling card

Cervical screening: Recommended techniques and instruments for taking a cervical sample

Cervical screening is recommended:

every 5 years

for asymptomatic women and people with a cervix

aged 25 to 74

who have ever had any sexual contact

Contact the National Cancer Screening Register to:

- Access patient cervical screening information
- Manage your patients' participation

Phone
1800 627 701



Sampling instruments



Cervical Sampler Broom



Spatula



Cervex-Brush® Combi



Endocervical Brush

Special notes

Eversion: Take care to sample the squamo-columnar junction. This is the junction where the columnar epithelium of the endocervical canal meets the squamous epithelium of the vagina. It is the area where changes occur.

Pregnancy: Do not use the Endocervical Brush or Cervex-Brush® Combi.

Lubricant: If using a lubricant, it is essential to use one that is water-soluble and carbomer-free. Apply sparingly to the sides of the speculum taking care to avoid the tip as this may affect the sample validity.

Taking a cervical sample

For pre-menopausal women

Cervical Sampler Broom: Rotate 3-5 times

OR

Cervex-Brush® Combi: Insert central part of the brush into os and rotate clockwise twice

OR

Spatula: Rotate once or twice, taking care to keep contact with the ecto-cervix

And:

Endocervical Brush: Insert ensuring that you can see the lower row of the bristles and make a quarter rotation

For peri and post-menopausal women

Cervical Sampler Broom: Rotate 3-5 times

And:

Endocervical Brush: Insert ensuring that you can see the lower row of the bristles and make a quarter rotation

OR

Cervex-Brush® Combi: Insert central part of the brush into os and rotate clockwise twice

OR

Spatula: Rotate once or twice, taking care to keep contact with the ecto-cervix

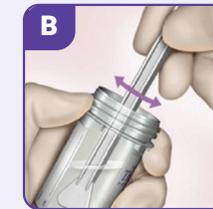
And:

Endocervical Brush: Insert ensuring that you can see the lower row of the bristles and make a quarter rotation

Sample preparation



A. Cervical Sampler Broom / Cervex-Brush® Combi: Rinse the broom/brush as quickly as possible into the vial by pushing the broom/brush into the bottom of the vial 10 times, forcing the bristles apart. As a final step, swirl the broom/brush vigorously to further release material.



B. Spatula (Plastic): Rinse the spatula as quickly as possible into the vial by swirling the spatula vigorously in the vial 10 times.



C. Endocervical Brush: Rinse the brush as quickly as possible in the solution by rotating the device in the solution 10 times while pushing against the vial wall. Swirl the brush vigorously to release material.

If using THINPREP

Do not leave any of the sampling device in the fluid.

If using SUREPATH

Instruments should be broken off and left in the fluid.

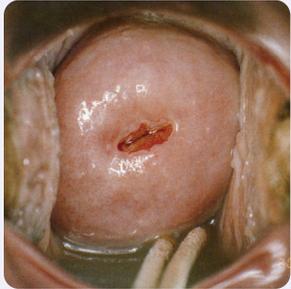


D. Tighten the cap. Do this so that the black line on the cap passes the black line on the vial.

Images supplied by Hologic (Australia) Pty Ltd

Cervical screening: Identifying cervical appearances

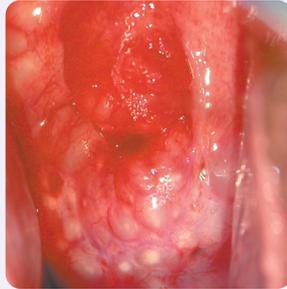
Further investigation not required in asymptomatic patients



Nulliparous¹



Eversion / ectropion



Nabothian follicles



Multiparous



Atrophy

Consider further investigation



Polyp



Cervical wart

A visual cervical abnormality may need further investigation even if screening tests are negative.

Should be investigated

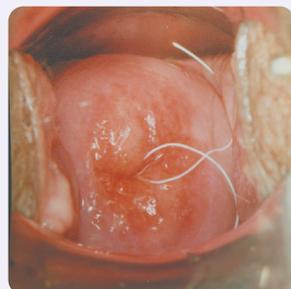


Mucopurulent discharge³



Cancer²

Post-intervention: Further investigation not required in asymptomatic patients



Intra Uterine Device (IUD)



Stenosis



Post treatment²

This resource has been adapted by the WACCPP with permission from the Australian Centre for the Prevention of Cervical Cancer.

Image source:

1. Wolfendale, Margaret, 1995. Taking Cervical Smears. British Society for Clinical Cytology: page 12.
2. Burghardt, Erich, 1984. Colposcopy Cervical Pathology Textbook and Atlas. Georg Thiem Verlag. Germany: pages 162 & 174.
3. Cartier, René, 1984. Practical Colposcopy. Laboratoire Cartier. Switzerland: page 168.

Key resources

National Cervical Screening Program Clinical Guidelines



Pathology test guide for cervical and vaginal testing



WA Cervical Cancer Prevention Program (WACCPP)

For further local resources and information visit kemh.health.wa.gov.au/cervical

This document can be made available in alternative formats on request.

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