### Improved reports

To support the risk-based approach of the screening program, Sullivan Nicolaides Pathology has designed an entirely new suite of reports. These reports clearly show a colour coded risk category, the component test results and an overall recommendation.

These reports will be provided electronically or in hard copy, according to your previously communicated reporting preferences. If you wish to change your report preferences, please contact our Doctor Service Centre on (07) 3377 8629.

### Personalised patient summaries

Sullivan Nicolaides Pathology has created optional personalised patient summary sheets for clinicians to give to patients when they return to discuss their screening results. These will only be available for routine screening tests and provide general information on cervical screening, together with a summary of the patient’s risk category and follow-up requirements. A contact number for the National Cancer Screening Register (NCSR) and directions on where to find further information are also included.

The patient summary sheets can be provided in PDF format as an attachment in your practice management software, or via Sonic Dx where they can be emailed directly to patients using a two-factor authentication system.

If you wish to receive the patient summary sheets, please contact our Doctor Service Centre on (07) 3377 8629.

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**Changes to cervical screening**

**A practical guide for clinicians**

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**For further information on the new program, please contact your Medical Liaison Manager on 1300 767 284.**

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A quick look at the new cervical screening program

1. Collect the right sample

Clinic-collected samples
The HPV collection procedure is similar to taking a Pap test, but all material must be collected into a ThinPrep® vial. Please see our CST collection guide for detailed instructions.

Self-collected HPV test
In the new program, self-collected HPV tests should only be offered under strict guidelines (see table opposite), and are not intended as a routine alternative to clinician-collected samples. Eligible women should be given a dry flocked swab, a patient instruction sheet, and advised to collect the specimen in the surgery bathroom. Self-collection should not be offered to pregnant women.

2. Order the appropriate test, including reason for test

The new program requires clinicians to order different tests for different circumstances. In order to qualify for Medicare benefits it is important to indicate:
- The specific test required. Most samples will be clinician-collected cervical samples, however, for vaginal and self-collected (vaginal) samples, please indicate the site in the test name as shown below.
- The reason you are ordering the test.
- Any other relevant clinical information.

The most common ordering scenarios are described in the tables below.

CERVICAL TESTS | Reason for test | Medicare restrictions
---|---|---
CST Routine (HPV) | Asymptomatic screening | Aged 26 years and over (1 test per 6-7 months)
Co-test (HPV+LBC) | Symptomatic | Any age, no time restriction
 | (provide details of symptoms) | 
 | DES exposed | 
 | Test of Cure, previous HSIL | 
 | Follow-up, previous AIS | 
 HPV test | Follow up 12 month repeat test | Must have previous cervix MBS screening item
 | Immune deficient | 
 | Early sexual debut (<14 years) prior to vaccination | 1 only between 20-24 years
 | Previous unsatisfactory HPV test | 
 LBC test | Following HPV (not 16/18) detection in a self-collected sample | Must have previous cervix MBS screening item
 | Previous unsatisfactory LBC test | 

VAGINAL TESTS | Reason for test | Medicare restrictions
---|---|---
Vaginal Co-test (HPV+LBC) | Hydrosalpinges and previous HSIL | Test of Cure not complete prior to hysterectomy
Vaginal HPV test | Previous hysterectomy without evidence of cervical pathology | 
 | Previous hysterectomy screening history unknown | 
 | Previous unsatisfactory vaginal HPV test | Must have previous vaginal MBS screening item
Vaginal LBC test | Previous unsatisfactory vaginal LBC test | Must have previous vaginal MBS screening item

3. Include clinical notes

Clinical notes supporting the reason for test must be included on your pathology request so that the appropriate test can be performed. It is particularly important to include the details of any abnormal vaginal bleeding (e.g. PCB single episode, PCB recurrent, PMI, pain during intercourse) and any other relevant screening or gynaecological history.

Tick boxes for clinical notes may be available in your practice management software system and are also included on the special CST request forms. Copies can be ordered using the resource order form provided.
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