HPV Primary Screening is being rolled out across Wales September 2018.

Key points:

- HPV testing will be the primary cervical screening test for all women in Wales replacing cytology.
- The test has been approved and recommended by the UK National Screening Committee.
- Smear takers will not need to learn a new technique for taking the sample.
- At present, there is no change to screening age range intervals.
- Smear takers will need to ensure that they understand about the test and the results, either by attending training sessions or by cascade training.
- Most women will receive their results sooner than at present.

- Check vial expiry dates as original ThinPrep vials distributed by CSW are becoming out of date.
- Please ensure you rotate stock so that older stock is used first.
- Out of date stock can be disposed in clinical waste.
- Samples received in out of date vials will be rejected by the laboratory (as the test results would be invalid).

The number of repeat tests are higher in some regions of Wales than others, use of lubricant when taking a smear can increase the risk of an inadequate result. CSW need your help to reduce the numbers of inadequate smears for this reason. Please consider every woman's needs individually.

Routine use of lubricant is not necessary.

Where to find CSW information on HPV PS training dates for your region.

http://howis.wales.nhs.uk/screeningprofessionals/smear-taker-training

http://www.gpone.wales.nhs.uk/screening

Events Calendar