



## After Your Hysterectomy Ar ôl Eich Hysterectomi

### What is Cervical Screening ?

Cervical screening is a test to check the health of the cervix (often called the neck of the womb), which is the lower part of the uterus (womb). Cervical screening is not a test for diagnosing cervical cancer but aims to prevent cancer from developing.

### Do I still need tests after my hysterectomy ?

A hysterectomy removes the uterus and this usually includes the cervix - this is called a 'total hysterectomy'.  
In some circumstances the cervix may be left in place - this is called a sub-total hysterectomy. If you have had a sub-total hysterectomy you should continue having cervical screening tests as usual up to the age of 65 years.  
Your doctor will be able to tell you what type of hysterectomy you have had.

### What if I no longer have a cervix ?

After a total hysterectomy, you would not normally need any further smears. However, if your total hysterectomy followed an abnormal smear test, or if changes were detected in your cervix at the time of the hysterectomy, then you might need two further tests at 6 and 12 months after your hysterectomy.  
These tests are taken from the top of the vagina (the vault of the vagina) in a similar way to a normal smear test.  
If you need these tests you will receive an invitation by post when they are due.

### Further questions ?

If you have any further questions, comments or complaints about screening please contact your GP, practice nurse or community clinic staff or write to:

**Dr Hilary Fielder**, Director  
**Cervical Screening Wales**

18 Cathedral Road, Cardiff CF11 9LH

We produce the following leaflets on all aspects of cervical screening.

Cervical screening - the facts

The smear that needs to be repeated

Investigating an abnormal smear

Investigating an inadequate smear

Your colposcopy appointment

Treatment following an abnormal smear

Should women who are virgins have cervical smears?

After your hysterectomy

Do you have a complaint about Cervical Screening Wales?

How we use information about you

Our pledges to you.

You can get our leaflets from

- your local Cervical Screening Administration Department;
- from your own doctor, or
- from our website at

**[www.velindre-tr.wales.nhs.uk/csw](http://www.velindre-tr.wales.nhs.uk/csw)**

You can also get all our leaflets in large print, on audiotape and in Braille.