

# Screening per la prevenzione del tumore del collo dell'utero

## CERVICAL CANCER SCREENING



**GISCI**

*Gruppo Italiano Screening del Cervicocarcinoma*

Inglese



### **What is cervical cancer?**

It is a preventable cancer caused by some strains of human papillomavirus (HPV)

### **How can I prevent cervical cancer?**

You can participate in our screening program, which is free to women aged between 25 and 64.

If you are under ..... , the screening exam is a Pap (or smear) test every 3 years.

If you are over ..... , the screening exam is a test for HPV every 5 years.

### **What do these exams consist of?**

Both for the Pap smear and the HPV test, a midwife or doctor will take a small tissue sample from your cervix. This is a simple, painless procedure which takes just a few minutes.

### **Why should I have these exams if I feel fine?**

Because this cancer, and the pre-cancerous lesions which precede it, do not always cause symptoms until it is too late.

The screening tests allow cervical tumours to be prevented or detected at an early stage.

### **What is human papillomavirus (HPV)?**

HPV is a virus responsible for an infection which is very common throughout the population, but in most women it will clear up by itself after a year or two.

In some cases, however, the infection persists, and can cause lesions which, if they are not treated, could slowly turn into a tumour.

### **What happens after the screening test?**

If the results of the screening test are normal or do not require immediate further investigation, you will receive notification of this at home and be invited to repeat the test at the normal frequency.

If the results of the screening test are abnormal and require further investigation, you will be contacted directly for an appointment.

### **How much do I have to pay?**

The screening test and the entire diagnostics and care pathway are free of charge.

### **If I take part in the screening, does that mean I don't need to worry?**

Screening, when performed regularly as provided for by the program, is the most effective way to prevent cervical cancer.

However, like any medical exam, the screening tests have limitations and also cannot identify other gynaecological diseases.

For further information on HPV infection and screening with the HPV test, see "Le 100 domande sull'HPV" (100 questions about HPV) on the following website:

[www.osservatorionazionale screening.it](http://www.osservatorionazionale screening.it) or [www.gisci.it](http://www.gisci.it).

**Gruppo di lavoro**

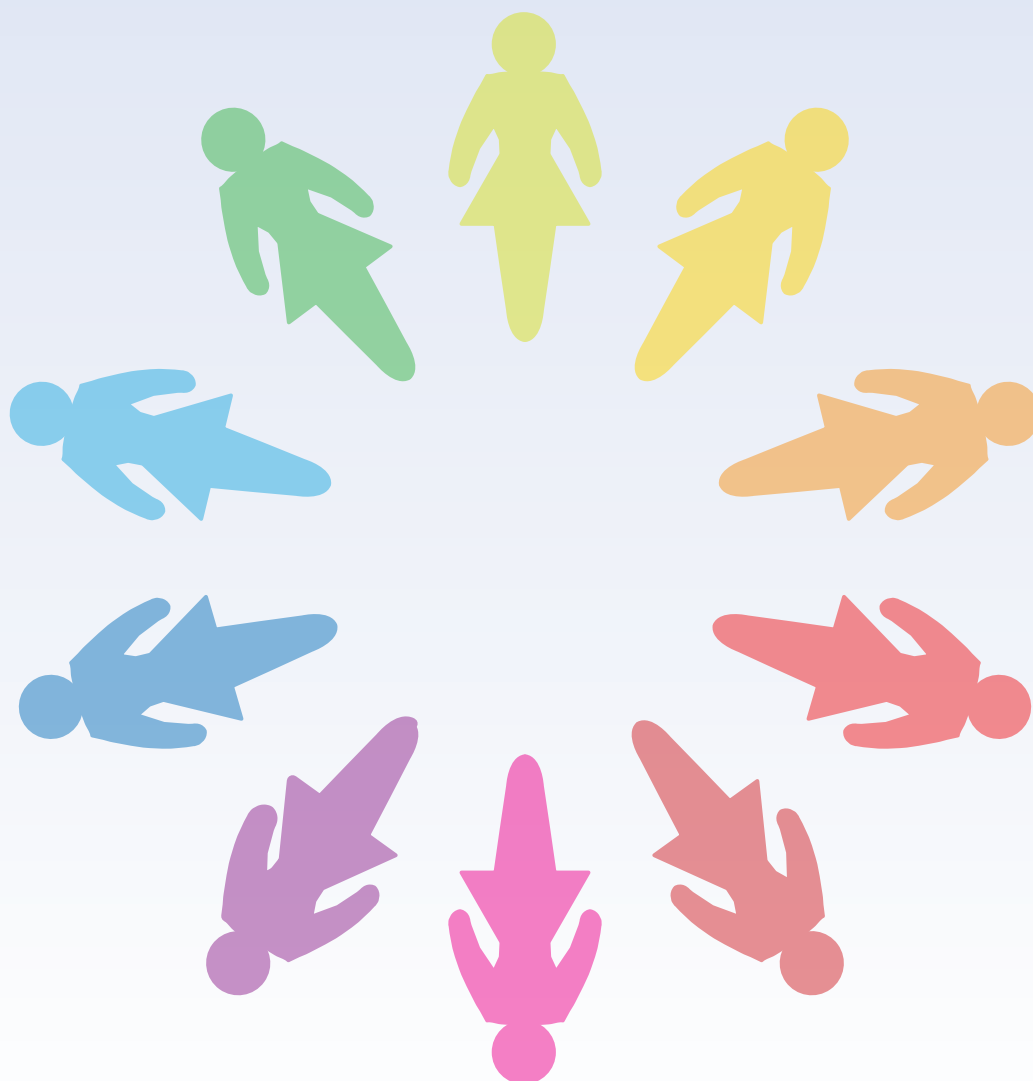
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