



## Happy New Year from Cervical Screening London

In 2024, we hope to move away from using Open Exeter in preparation for the new Cervical Screening Management System (CSMS). Below is an important message from NHSE to all practices and clinics.

### Accessing the new Cervical Screening Management System (CSMS)

Cervical Screening call/recall services will move from Open Exeter to the new CSMS in Q4 23/24. The new CSMS will be accessed using an NHS Smartcard.

**Please check that actions have been completed within your organisation to ensure access to CSMS.**

- Find out more [here](#)
- Nominate a main point of contact to sign up for our [updates](#)

[Training](#) on how to use the new CSMS will be available soon on eLearning for Healthcare (elfh). If you do not already have an elfh account, you will need to create one. [Visit elfh to create an account.](#)

Please note that training will be provided in two parts:

The first part will be an introduction to CSMS, and the course will include key changes and benefits, and an overview of how to use CSMS and the features available.

The second part will focus on user guidance on specific processes, including quick reference guides and how-to videos.

Full training will take approximately two hours and does not need to be completed in one go. Users will be notified when the training is available.

Should you have any questions or require assistance, please contact the screening implementation team via [screening.implementation@nhs.net](mailto:screening.implementation@nhs.net).

## Check individuals' eligibility on Open Exeter before taking a sample

To avoid unnecessary rejection of samples, please check the individual's eligibility on Open Exeter before they take a sample. Unfortunately, CSL have had to reject samples where the individual has attended their GP, had a sample taken and then attended colposcopy where a further sample has been taken within three months. Open Exeter will generally show the last date and guide the sample taker on eligibility.

## Locum/agency sample takers

Locum/agency trainee sample takers MUST NOT be recruited for the cervical sample taking procedure or undertake their sample taker training as a locum/agency nurse. Only fully qualified sample takers may undertake cervical sample taking as a locum/agency nurse/PA.

Additional employment reminders when recruiting:

- Check the relevant professional body to ensure that the sample taker is registered
- Ensure the name that they are using to practice in is the same name as that on their professional registration

Ensure the correct UK training certification:

- Full 2 day UK NHS CSP training to full competency
- 3 yearly update training
- Hr/HPV Primary test training

## Facts from the Annual Cervical Screening Bulletin April 2022 – March 2023 (KC61)

Published 23/11/2023. For further reading, access [Cervical Screening Programme, England – 2022-2023 \[NS\] – NHS Digital](#).

### 68.7% of eligible individuals aged 25 to 64 adequately screened

A 1.2 percentage point decrease on the previous year, when coverage was 69.9% (coverage assessed at 31 March 2023).

### 4.62 million individuals aged 25 to 64 invited for screening

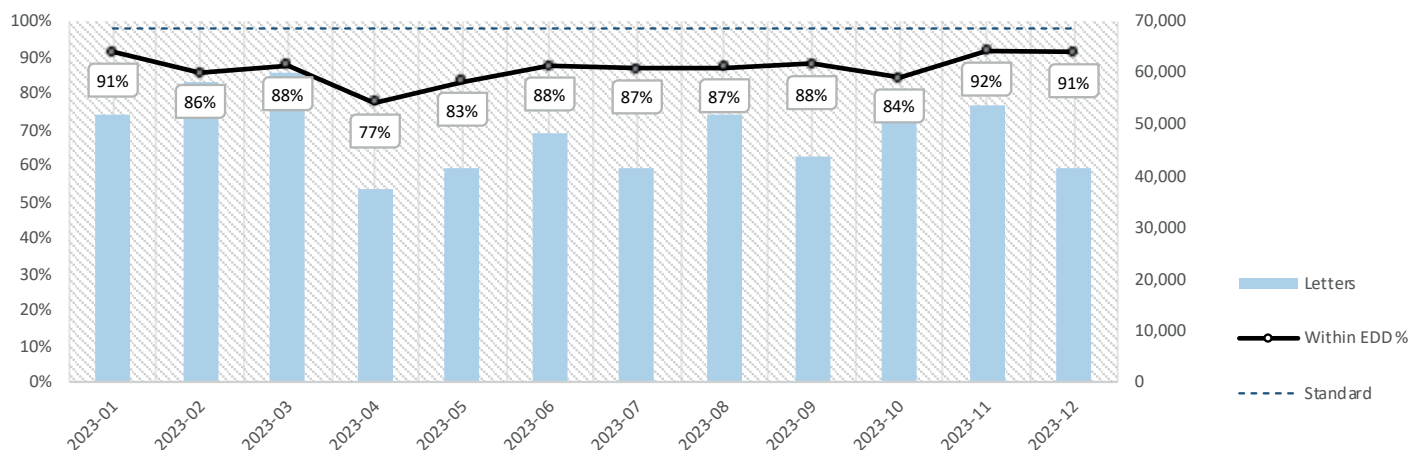
A decrease of 9.7% on the previous year, when 5.12 million were invited (invitation letters sent during 2022–23, excludes reminders).

### 3.43 million individuals aged 25 to 64 tested

A decrease of 2.0% on the previous year, when 3.50 million were tested (tested in 2022–23).

### 246,762 referrals to colposcopy in 2022–23

An increase of 4.9% from the previous year, when 235,223 were referred (all ages).



## Turnaround times

In November and December 2023 (see graph above), CSL saw a significant improvement in turnaround times of 91.3%. We hope to continue this trend and meet the national target of 98%. CSL has invested in technology which is proving beneficial in separating HPV positive and HPV negative sample vials after testing, thus speeding up the cytology arm of testing and improved turnaround times.

## How are we doing in London?

**Total number of samples tested: 676,501**

Cytology reported as (%)	CSL	England
Inadequate	0.9	0.5
Negative	93.6	95.3
Borderline	1.4	1.3
Low grade dyskaryosis	3.9	2.4
High grade moderate dyskaryosis	0.7	0.5
High grade severe dyskaryosis	0.4	0.4

## Sample Taker Database (CSTD)

Significant improvement has been made and the number of sample takers with no PIN or using an incorrect PIN is just under 5%. Whilst this figure is reassuring, we need to continue efforts to reach full compliance. The quality of the cervical screening programme is reliant on the quality of sample taking.

- GMC & NMC numbers are NOT considered sample taker codes.
- Sample taker codes are not national, they are issued at a regional level. If you have been previously registered in another region, you DO need to register on the London Sample Taker Database.
- Trainee sample takers must not take over 25 samples until signed off by an external assessor.

## CSL's commitment to the environment

As part of CSL's commitment to the environment, we are planning on reducing the number of printed/hard copy reports we send to our primary care users by 30 June 2024.

Most of you already receive results electronically via EMIS/SystemOne. By no longer sending out printed copies, we will be able to reduce the GDPR risk associated with posting printed copies.

If you work in primary care and are unable to receive electronic results, please contact our IT department at [helpdesk@tdlpathology.com](mailto:helpdesk@tdlpathology.com) or via the website support at [The Doctors Laboratory \(freshservice.com\)](http://TheDoctorsLaboratory(freshservice.com)) or email [csl.queries@nhs.net](mailto:csl.queries@nhs.net) for support.

## Visit by Jo's Trust to CSL at the Halo Building in London

CSL look forward to hosting a visit by Jo's Trust in January 2024 for a tour of the department. Jo's Trust is a wonderful organisation providing support for patients, their families, and the wider professional community. For further information and reading, follow the link below:

[Jo's Cervical Cancer Trust, Cervical Cancer Charity \(jostrust.org.uk\)](http://Jo'sCervicalCancerTrust,CervicalCancerCharity(jostrust.org.uk))

## Sample takers visiting the Laboratory

CSL still adhere to Covid-safe working practices but are delighted to host sample takers on site at the Halo Building, 1 Mabledon Place, London, WC1H 9AX. CSL have welcomed 210 smear takers including trainee colposcopists, trainee gynaecologists, and a few GPs have attended sessions in 2023.

Email [csl.queries@nhs.net](mailto:csl.queries@nhs.net) if you would like to arrange a visit.

## Digital cytology

CSL is delighted to be involved in a small study with the Royal Derbyshire Trust to assess digital cytology. It is hoped that the data from this study will be submitted to the National Screening Committee in 2024 and help inform future thinking on the use of digitisation in cervical screening.

## World Health elimination of cervical cancer

The World Health Organization (WHO) has adopted a global strategy for the elimination of cervical cancer. Each country has been asked to meet the 90–70–90 targets by 2030 to get on the path to eliminate cervical cancer within the next century.

- Vaccination: 90% of girls fully vaccinated with the HPV vaccine by the age of 15.
- Screening: 70% of women screened using a high-performance test by the age of 35, and again by the age of 45.
- Treatment: 90% of women with pre-cancer treated and 90% of women with invasive cancer managed.

Find out more about global cervical screening initiatives by visiting the WHO's website:

[Cervical Cancer Elimination Initiative \(who.int\)](https://www.who.int/cancer/cervical/cervical-cancer-elimination-initiative)

[9789240014107-eng.pdf \(who.int\)](#)

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