

Lead GPs
Practice Managers
CASH services
Gynae clinics
CCG Chief Officers
London LMC

Liz Wise
Director of Primary Care and Public Health
Commissioning
NHS England (London Region)
Wellington House
133-155 Waterloo Road
London SE1 8UG

01 April 2020

Dear colleagues

Rescheduling and Recovery of the NHS Cervical Screening Programme in London

We are writing to clarify the advice for cervical screening in London

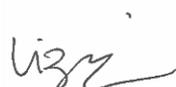
Given the current and rapidly evolving situation with Coronavirus in the UK, the cervical screening programme is unable to provide a service that meets the criteria and principles that underpin screening programmes or to maintain nationally mandated pathways or quality standards. In these circumstances, screening should be paused, and screening subjects rescheduled and tracked.

Given the threat posed by Covid-19 infection and the national delay strategy of social distancing, social isolation and shielding, the benefits from maintaining screening through the programme are outweighed by the risk posed to the NHS and the population by Covid-19. This pause in local screening programmes will free up valuable resource to assist with the NHS COVID-19 response.

We are requesting that, until further notice, no cervical samples are taken in primary care, CASH services or hospital gynae clinics.

We, in the London Public Health Commissioning team, will work closely with trusts and primary care providers to monitor the number of people whose screening appointments have been rescheduled and to ensure that, once able, screening restarts in a safe and timely manner.

Yours sincerely



Liz Wise
Director of Primary Care & Public Health Commissioning
NHSE/I London Region