

Supplementary Material

‘I felt so empowered, respected and shame free.’ Let’s test for HPV participants’ experience of HPV primary screening

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Table S1. Participant recommendations for screening providers to support access, acceptability and ongoing participation in HPV primary screening (with illustrative quotes).

Recommendation	Illustrative quotes ^a
<p>1. Provide clear information about HPV and the new screening test.</p> <p><i>Share key messages about HPV primary screening and the possibility a cervical test may be needed. offer written information and weblinks to trusted sources.</i></p>	<p>“Maybe explain the types of HPV.” (Māori, 50-59)</p> <p>“It could be made clearer that this test is as good as, in fact much more accurate than the old test at picking up HPV, though requires another test to pick up abnormal cells.” (European, 60+)</p> <p>“More info and I felt a bit pressured to do the self-test as nurse strongly encouraged me to. (Māori, <30)</p> <p>“More information/reassurance about risk of cervical cancer if HPV negative.” (European, 40-49)</p> <p>“I felt I wanted to google it so I had more independent information whether it was a safer.” (European, 30-39)</p> <p>“The time you have to wait between your screens and the diagnosis is scary, you go down a rabbit hole in the internet convincing yourself something really bad is happening.” (Pacific, <30)</p>
<p>2. Share clear instructions about self-testing.</p> <p><i>Demonstrate how to use the swab, offer instructions in patient’s preferred format and language.</i></p>	<p>“How to unscrew the cap or packaging correctly.” (European, 30-39)</p> <p>“Explain where to put the swab.” (European, 40-49, Not sure-Wgtn)</p> <p>“It would be helpful if they used a swab on a plastic 3D 'body parts model' to show how far into the vagina the swab should go.” (European, 50-59)</p> <p>“Bit more explanation on how far to go in when self-swabbing.” (Māori, 40-49)</p> <p>“For those who are not native English speakers, brochures in multiple languages may be more helpful.” (Asian, 30-39)</p> <p>“Visual aids to support when self-testing.” (Māori, 30-39)</p> <p>“Video information might be easier for people.” (European, 30-39)</p>
<p>3. Provide reassurance and support about self-testing, results, next steps.</p> <p><i>A self-test is reliable, accurate and hard to get wrong. HPV detected does not mean cancer, and not detected means it is safe to rescreen in 5-year (explain at the time of screening and when sharing results)</i></p>	<p>“I think perhaps for those who may be anxious about doing it wrong a little more reassurance that it’s hard to mess up might be good?” (European, 30-39)</p> <p>“Maybe double check that all patients understand what they need to do so they can be confident with their results.” (Māori, 40-49)</p> <p>“Some more information regarding the sensitivity of the self-test could be good to reassure people.” (European, <30)</p> <p>“Nurse to stay in the room (behind curtain) if it’s the patients first time - unless asked to leave.” (European, 40-49)</p> <p>“Maybe should do it under the nurse’s supervision for the very first time to ensure that I did the test in the accurate way.” (Asian, 40-49)</p> <p>“It was the first self-test I did. I wasn’t too sure if I did right or wrong and if the result was accurate.” (Asian, 40-49)</p> <p>“I would have liked to know a bit more precisely how high the risk was of me developing cervical cancer even if my HPV screening was negative.” (European, 40-49)</p>
<p>4. Provide an appropriate, private, physical space for self-testing.</p> <p><i>Offer a choice of space where possible to accommodate individual preferences, ensuring it is clean and private and set-up for ease of sample collection.</i></p>	<p>“Only issue for me was lack of privacy in the clinic (curtain rather than locked door and nurse came back before I was finished). An option to do it in a locked room (or in the bathroom) would solve the privacy issues I had.” (European, 30-39)</p> <p>“I did this at the GPs. There was nowhere to put the kit while I was getting ready to do the swab. I ended up putting it on the toilet lid while trying not to let the swab touch anything. A clean table or shelf is definitely needed.” (European, 50-59)</p> <p>“Provide a clean private place that isn't a toilet.” (European, 50-59)</p> <p>“Not enough room behind the privacy curtain at the doctors.” European, 40-49)</p> <p>“I did my self-test in clinic but I would recommend a holder for the plastic tube (similar to covid tests) to make it less awkward.” (Māori, 30-39)</p>

<p>5. Offer a genuine choice of test and location. <i>Ensure participants have genuine choice, including options outside clinic settings (with access to advice/support and systems to facilitate test-kit collection and return).</i></p>	<p>“Explain that there is a choice, don’t assume that the self-test is best for everyone.” (European, 60+)</p> <p>“Having the option to go to a clinic if necessary, or if not confident enough to do it yourself.” Asian, 60+)</p> <p>“I think GP needs to do it as well to see any physical changes from time to time. Self-service is not always best.” (European, 50-59)</p> <p>“To be able to do it at home.” (Pacific, 50-59)</p> <p>“Possibly doing it at home and being able to drop it into a lab might be an improvement?” (Māori, 40-49)</p> <p>“Send testing kits to home and have drop off centres or being able to courier like the bowel screening. Make it available to all women via pickup or drop off service.” (European, 50-59)</p> <p>“A number to ring a nurse or a number to call to walk you through the test.” (Māori,30-39)</p>
<p>6. Raise awareness through advertising and health promotion. <i>Advertising across ‘all available channels’ to raise awareness among the screening-eligible population.</i></p>	<p>“There is a need for a media campaign to keep in spotlight.” (Māori, 60+)</p> <p>“Promote to patients and local marae.” (Māori, 30-39)</p> <p>“I think advertising that there is a self-test will mean a lot of women get their test.” (Māori, 30-39)</p> <p>“More advertising so everyone knows this test is an option.” (European, 60+)</p> <p>“There definitely needs to be greater education about it throughout the life course - I think that now we are switching to HPV testing this is an opportunity for it.” (Pacific, <30)</p>
<p>7. Address system-level barriers to participation in cervical screening. <i>Barriers include consultation costs, clinic hours, transport, past negative experiences, lack of cultural competency.</i></p>	<p>“It needs to be free.” (Māori, 30-39)</p> <p>“More funding for better nurses and GPs that are trained on culturally appropriate practices.” (Māori, 30-39)</p> <p>“I had to take time off work to have the test so it would be good to have office hours after 5pm.” (European, 30-39)</p> <p>“Allow kaiāwhina or non-clinical staff to provide the test to patients with a nurse follow up if a positive result only. This way we can reach the population that do not regularly visit their GP.” (Māori, 50-59)</p> <p>“Hold testing days to encourage people to get one.” (European, <30)</p> <p>“Give us the swabs to take home and an easy drop off point.” (European, 40-49)</p> <p>“It would be so great if you could get it sent out to your home directly.” (European, 40-49)</p>

a. Some quotes have been lightly edited for clarity (e.g. by removing repetition, fillers, typos) and to remove potentially identifying information. Demographic descriptors are included in brackets to highlight the diversity of participants sharing comments but do not imply that everyone with the same demographic characteristics shares the same view.