



## Change to Cervical Screening Start Age: Primary Care/PHO Update

December 2019

This update informs you and the wider primary care sector about the steps that are being taken to implement the new screening start age. Thank you in advance for sharing this with your colleagues.

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### Primary Care Practice Management System (PMS) changes

All PMS vendors completed the necessary system updates during November to commence the roll-out of the age change. See below for further information from your vendor on the updates:

**MyPractice** <http://mypractice.co.nz/home/support/tutorials/for-practice-nurses/cervical-smears-start-age-from-25yrs/>

**BestPractice** <http://bestpractice-elevate.cmail20.com/t/ViewEmail/t/CF12FD56EFCDB3DA2540EF23F30FEDED>

**IntraHealth** <https://support.intrahealth.com/>

**Indici** <https://myindici.co.nz/Account/Login>

**Medtech** <https://insight.medtechglobal.com/> - this covers Medtech32 and Evolution

The implementation of the age change is as detailed below:

- Women under 25 years of age who are not currently in the programme are *no longer invited for screening*.
- Women under 25 who have already been screened, should *continue to be screened* according to the current pathway.

For clarification, as noted in our earlier communications, there is an exception to this guidance:

- Women that have already received an invitation from their provider to start screening but have no screening record remain on the recall list.
- Screening providers should discuss the programme change with women who are under 25 and have already been invited. The Ministry would recommend that these women be recalled for screening at 25 years, unless there is a clinical rationale for someone to commence screening earlier.

If you require additional detail to support these updates, email the NCSP team: [ncsp@health.govt.nz](mailto:ncsp@health.govt.nz)

### NCSP resource updates

The NCSP team have updated our printed and digital resources to reflect the change to the age range and these are now available to order from [HealthEd](#). We remind you to review your own communication materials (e.g. web pages, letters, posters) to ensure that any reference to the screening start age change has been updated.



National  
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## Ministry of Health Christmas shut-down period

The Ministry of Health will be closed from 5pm Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December until 9am Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January, so your queries will be responded to upon our return to office.

## Queries

**Project web page:** Includes links to key documents, previous updates and FAQs related to the change to the screening start age. This page is regularly updated and can be found on the NSU website: <https://www.nsu.govt.nz/health-professionals/national-cervical-screening-programme/age-range-change-cervical-screening>

**Queries:** If you have any queries or feedback regarding this upcoming programme change, please contact [ncsp@health.govt.nz](mailto:ncsp@health.govt.nz), including the title **AGE CHANGE PROJECT** in the subject line.