

# LGBTQ+ Cervical Screenings

## Do I Need a Cervical Screening?

Cervical screenings are a vital health measure for **everyone** who has a cervix. Cervical screenings detect changes in the cells of the cervix and identify the presence of Human Papilloma Virus (HPV), which **if untreated can lead to cervical cancer**.

Regular cervical screenings are estimated to prevent up to 75% of potential cervical cancers ever developing.

It is a **myth** that cervical screenings are only needed if you have heterosexual sex.

**Lesbian and bisexual women, transgender men and non-binary people with cervixes** all still need to attend cervical screenings, and to attend as regularly as heterosexual or cisgender women.

If you are **between the ages of 25 and 64** and need to book a cervical screening, please speak to a member of staff today.

## What are the symptoms of cervical cancer?

The most common symptom is **genital bleeding outside of the menstrual cycle**. This includes during or after penetrative sex, and bleeding at any time if you have passed the menopause. Other symptoms are an **unpleasant-smelling discharge**, and **pain or discomfort during penetrative sex**.

**Other conditions much less serious than cervical cancer can also cause these symptoms**. If you are concerned, you should speak to your GP, or visit a GUM or Well Woman Clinic for advice.