



An tSeirbhís Náisiúnta Scagthástála
National Screening Service

18 June 2017

The National Screening Service (NSS) – Screening Promotion Team

Dear Colleague

The National Screening Service is responsible for the 4 national screening programmes:

BowelScreen, BreastCheck, CervicalCheck and Diabetic RetinaScreen

The NSS has a designated team of Screening Promotion Officers based in different areas across the country. Individual team members are based in Cork, Dublin, Galway and Limerick. Our work aims to enable the eligible population, and in particular 'hard to reach' groups to participate in these programmes. This is achieved by developing and implementing effective screening promotion strategies.

Current Challenges Nationally

BowelScreen Uptake (uptake is defined as the number of clients who consent to their invitation to participate in the programme)

BreastCheck – Initial Women (Initial women are defined as women who have been invited for the first time aged between 50-52 who have not attended but will continue to be invited)

CervicalCheck – Areas of low coverage (coverage is defined as women within the defined screening population who have had at least one satisfactory smear test within a screening interval)

We can identify areas where figures are lower than the national average. In Meath CervicalCheck is below the national average and BreastCheck uptake is low at only 50% for initial women. We would welcome the opportunity to work with you to increase coverage in your area.

Contacting the Screening Promotion Team

The Screening Promotion Team is available to work with community groups and health professionals who would like to collaborate in order to increase awareness and reduce barriers which prevent people from accessing the screening services.

If you have a query in relation to the work of the Screening Promotion team or if you would like to contact the Screening Promotion Officer in your area please email:

Cork	lynn.swinburne@screeningservice.ie
Dublin	david.keane@screeningservice.ie
Mayo & Donegal	antoinette.morley@screeningservice.ie
Limerick	fiona.treacyl@screeningservice.ie
Other counties	deirdre.ryan1@screeningservice.ie (Screening Promotion Manager)
General queries	screening.promotion@screeningservice.ie

Teach Óstaí an Rí, 200 Sráid Parnell, Baile Átha Cliath. King's Inns House, 200 Parnell Street, Dublin 1.
☎ 353 1 865 9300 ✉ info@cancerscreening.ie www.cancerscreening.ie



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- Free breast x-rays (mammograms) for women aged 50 to 64 every two years.
- The programme is being extended to women aged 69 on a phased basis.
- If an appointment time or date doesn't suit, it can be easily changed.
- Results take just three weeks.
- Most mammogram results are normal.
- BreastCheck is for women who have no symptoms of breast cancer.
- If you have any concerns or symptoms, see your family doctor (GP).
- For more information Freephone 1800 45 45 55 or visit www.breastcheck.ie.

- Free smear tests for women aged 25 to 60.
- Aim is to find changes on the cells of the cervix before they become cancer.
- To arrange your free smear test, make an appointment with any doctor or nurse registered with CervicalCheck.
- Results take just four weeks.
- Most smear test results are normal.
- CervicalCheck is for women who have no symptoms of cervical cancer.
- If you have any concerns or symptoms, see your family doctor (GP).
- For information or details on where to have a smear test Freephone 1800 45 45 55 or visit www.cervicalcheck.ie.

- Free bowel screening for men and women aged 60 to 69 every two years.
- In time the programme will be extended to men and women aged 55-74.
- Aim is to find bowel cancer at the earliest possible stage.
- Screening is by invitation and a test kit is sent directly to your home.
- Results take just four weeks.
- Most results are normal.
- BowelScreen is for men and women who have no symptoms of bowel cancer.
- If you have any concerns or symptoms, see your family doctor (GP).
- For more information Freephone 1800 45 45 55 or visit www.bowelscreen.ie.

- Free diabetic retinopathy screening for people with diabetes aged 12 and over.
- Anybody with Type 1 or Type 2 diabetes is at risk.
- Diabetic RetinaScreen uses special digital photography to look for changes that could affect sight.
- Diabetic retinopathy may not have any symptoms in the early stage.
- When caught early, treatment can reduce or prevent damage to your sight.
- Screening is by invitation.
- An appointment takes about half an hour.
- Results take just three weeks.
- For more information Freephone 1800 45 45 55 or visit www.diabeticretinascreen.ie.



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- The National Screening Service (NSS) is part of the Health Service Executive. The NSS is responsible for Government funded population-based screening programmes – BreastCheck – The National Breast Screening Programme,

CervicalCheck – The National Cervical Screening Programme, BowelScreen – The National Bowel Screening Programme and Diabetic RetinaScreen – The National Diabetic Retinal Screening Programme.

- Equal access is provided to all. For more information or to contact an Access Officer Freephone 1800 45 45 55.
- For more information visit www.screeningservice.ie.