

- To:
- Integrated care boards:
 - chief executive officers
 - accountable officers
 - chief information officers
 - chief clinical information officers
 - chief nursing information officers
 - primary care leads
 - Local IT teams
 - North of England Commissioning Support Unit (NECS):
 - head of service [for cascade to cervical screening administration services]
 - All GP practices
 - NHS England:
 - heads of public health commissioning [for cascade to sexual health, laboratory and colposcopy providers chief executives]
 - detained estates team
 - regional directors of digital transformation
 - screening quality assurance (SQAS)
 - Ministry of Defence medical services consultant in public health
 - Registration authorities
- cc:
- North of England Commissioning Support Unit (NECS):
 - clinical services
 - operations director
 - NHS England:
 - national director for primary care
 - director of primary care services
 - regional directors of commissioning
 - regional directors of primary care and public health

NHS England
Wellington House
133-155 Waterloo Road
London
SE1 8UG

21 May 2024

Dear colleagues,

FOR ACTION: final preparations for transition to the new Cervical Screening Management System (CSMS)

The NHS Cervical Screening Programme (CSP) helps save thousands of lives from cervical cancer and last year we invited 4.6 million individuals to come for an appointment.

We are now in the final stages of testing CSMS, a new and improved IT system that will support the continued success of the NHS CSP. Replacing a 35-year-old system is a unique challenge; it is important we get this right, so that we maintain clinical safety and operational effectiveness within the Programme. We expect the system to go live during late June 2024.

CSMS will replace the current call/recall IT system which sits on the National Health Application and Infrastructure Services (NHAIS) platform and is accessed by Open Exeter.

Once CSMS goes live, it will be accessed via an NHS smartcard and the Open Exeter system will no longer be accessible for the purposes of delivering NHS CSP services.

CSMS will be much simpler to navigate for users than the existing NHAIS based system:

- Prior notification lists will be electronic and easier to sign off.
- Eligible screening participants will be easier to identify.
- Results will flow between provider systems quicker, freeing up more time for frontline staff.

This new system will mean we can continue to make sure every person eligible for a screening appointment is invited on time and followed up if required.

Our system letter on 18 September 2023 detailed the actions required to get ready for the change and we have been working closely with registration authorities to ensure these fundamental steps are taken. We are grateful to everyone who has taken the necessary actions to update their smartcards and check that they can access the system.

It is crucial that any organisations which have not yet done so take the below actions to ensure a seamless transition.

By 17 June 2024, all staff delivering cervical screening services, including GP practices, administration staff in primary care, sample takers in primary care and sexual health services, laboratory and colposcopy staff, need to:

1. carry out a check to confirm they can access CSMS – this [guidance](#) will support completing an access check and what to do if any problems are encountered.

2. complete CSMS training – [Part 1 Introducing the new CSMS](#) and [Part 2 Using the new CSMS](#) which are now live on the Learning Hub (to access, use your e-Learning for Health login). Training must be completed before using the new CSMS.

In addition, GP practices have been asked to review and update email details held on Open Exeter to continue to receive prior notification list (PNL) reminders and support effective call/recall of patients.

Further information, support and full details about the steps colleagues need to take can be found on [the website](#).

To ensure a smooth transition to CSMS, ICBs are asked to please connect with relevant teams/boards, to seek assurance that the above actions have been taken or will be taken by 17 June 2024.

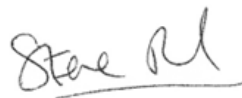
NHS England has made a pledge to eliminate cervical cancer by 2040. To achieve this, the NHS needs to ensure as many eligible people as possible are being vaccinated against HPV, while also coming forward for cervical screening. The transition to the use of CSMS is a key part of this ambition and will support all those who are eligible to continue to receive the screening they are entitled to.

We appreciate your support as we work together to achieve our cervical cancer elimination goal.

Yours sincerely,



Deborah Tomalin
Director of Public Health
Commissioning and Operations
NHS England



Steve Russell
Chief Delivery Officer
NHS England