

Screening during Coronavirus

What we are doing to make sure you can safely go to your screening appointment



This document was written by **Public Health Wales**. It is an easy read version of '**Screening during the Coronavirus Pandemic**'.

26 October 2020

About our screening programmes



We are **Public Health Wales**. We manage the NHS **screening programmes** in Wales.

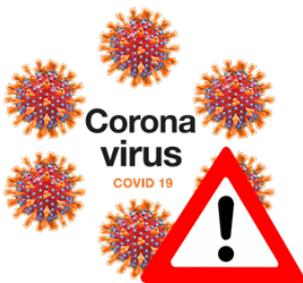


Screening means checking people for some types of cancer and other health problems. When cancer and health problems are found early, they are easier to treat.



NHS **screening programmes** offer different tests to check people for some types of cancer and health problems. For example:

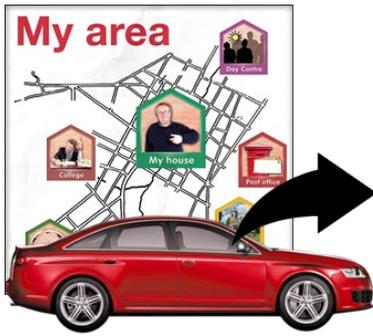
- Bowel screening
- Breast screening
- Newborn hearing screening.



Because of coronavirus some of our **screening programmes** stopped for a short time.



All the **screening programmes** in Wales have now started inviting people to come for **screening** again.



You can travel outside your area to go to your **screening** appointment. Even if you live in an area that is in lockdown.



Going to your **screening** appointment is something **you** can do to look after your yourself.



We know you might be worried if you have missed your **screening** appointment. Or if you are due to go and it has been delayed.



Please know that we are working hard to catch up and make sure you get your appointment.

Keeping safe at your appointment

We have some new rules to keep people safe during appointments:



- You will have to wait outside the building until you are called in.



- Staff will be wearing **personal protective equipment (PPE)**. For example, gloves, aprons, and face masks.



- You will be asked to wear a face covering.



- You will be asked to use hand sanitiser.



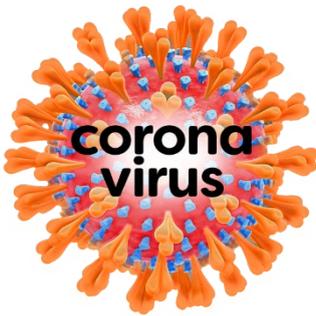
- Staff will keep all equipment and waiting areas very clean.



- There will be fewer people in our buildings. You will probably only see the person doing your test.



There are **no changes** to the way we do the **screening** test itself.



To stop coronavirus spreading, please do not go to your **screening appointment if:**

- you have symptoms of coronavirus
- you have had a test for coronavirus and it was positive
- or you are **self-isolating**. This is when you must stay indoors and not see other people to stop the spread of coronavirus.



The symptoms of coronavirus are:

- A new ongoing cough
- A high temperature
- Change in smell or taste.



You will get a letter in the post asking you to come for **screening**.



Tell us if you cannot come. We might be able to give your appointment to someone else.



If you are unsure if you should come to your **screening** appointment, you can call the number on your letter.



To find out more about our **screening programmes** visit our website:

phw.nhs.wales/services-and-teams/screening

If you are worried about your health



Do not wait for your **screening** appointment. **Speak to someone at your GP surgery straight away.**