

# bevolkingsonderzoek



Voor vroege opsporing van kanker

Bevolkingsonderzoek Zuid  
t 088 00 01 344  
contact@bevolkingsonderzoekzuid.nl  
www.bevolkingsonderzoekzuid.nl

Retouradres: Postbus 690, 5600 AR Eindhoven

J. Doe  
Teststraat 9  
1111 XX MAASTRICHT



Re: Invitation for screening for cervical cancer

Dear Ms Doe,

We are writing to invite you to be screened for cervical cancer. You have received this invitation, because cervical cancer occurs most frequently in women between 30 and 60 years of age. Screening enables us to discover at an early stage whether you have cervical cancer or a preliminary stage of it. Early detection makes it possible to treat cervical cancer better or even to prevent it from developing. There is no charge for taking part in the screening programme.

## What happens during the screening?

Your family doctor or doctor's receptionist will perform a smear test. The smear will be tested for the human papilloma virus (HPV). Has HPV been detected in the smear? In that case, we will also check immediately whether there are abnormal cells in the smear.

HPV is the virus that may cause cervical cancer in the long term. The body is nearly always able to remove the virus on its own. Sometimes, it does not succeed in this. In that case, abnormal cells may develop. This may result in cervical cancer after a long time. From 2017 onwards, an updated type of screening for cervical cancer will be used.

## Would you like to participate?

Whether you participate or not is for you to decide. The screening has advantages and disadvantages. This brochure will help you to make a decision.

- If you wish to participate, please make an appointment for a smear test at your family doctor or the doctor's receptionist.
- Bring this letter with you to the appointment. The stickers on the letter are required for the examination.
- Do you feel very uncomfortable having a smear test performed? And, is this a reason for you not to participate in the screening? Then, read more on the self-sampling device at [www.bevolkingsonderzoekbaarmoederhalskanker.nl](http://www.bevolkingsonderzoekbaarmoederhalskanker.nl)
- If you do not wish to participate, for example because you are pregnant, please pass this information on at Mijn Bevolkingsonderzoek at [www.bevolkingsonderzoekzuid.nl](http://www.bevolkingsonderzoekzuid.nl) by using your DigiD. You can also call us or send us an e-mail.

## More information

For more information, read the brochure or visit [www.bevolkingsonderzoekbaarmoederhalskanker.nl](http://www.bevolkingsonderzoekbaarmoederhalskanker.nl). You can also ask questions to Bevolkingsonderzoek Zuid. Please call 088-0001333 or send an e-mail to [contact@bevolkingsonderzoekzuid.nl](mailto:contact@bevolkingsonderzoekzuid.nl).

Yours sincerely,

Drs. M.J.P. Steinbusch

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