Perform cervical screening and cervical smear taking

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<tr>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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People credited with this unit standard are able to: prepare women for cervical screening and participation in the National Screening Programme (NCSP); take cervical smears; and interpret cervical smear results, initiate follow-up action, and complete documentation.

Health Studies > Cervical Screening

Achieved

Candidates must be registered or enrolled nurses/nurse assistants, midwives and/or doctors and must:

a) have a current New Zealand practising certificate;
b) provide a clinical supervisor for completion of the clinical component;
c) possess professional/personal indemnity insurance;
d) have access to an appropriate client base.

Enrolled nurses/nurse assistants will need to supply confirmation of an on-going clinical supervisor after certification.

Documents relevant to the assessment against this unit standard include the National Cervical Screening Programme (NCSP) Operational Policy and Quality Standards and the texts referenced in that publication available at http://www.nsu.govt.nz/health-professionals/1060.aspx.


Competency for this unit standard must be assessed after the completion of 15 smears. This may be an assessment after the 15 smears in accordance with the operational and procedural requirements as documented in the *National Cervical Screening Programme – Competencies for Smear Taker Training* available at [http://www.nsu.govt.nz/files/NCSP/Competencies_for_smear_taker_training_FINAL_-_JULY_09.pdf](http://www.nsu.govt.nz/files/NCSP/Competencies_for_smear_taker_training_FINAL_-_JULY_09.pdf).

Candidates must support the practices and policies of the National Cervical Screening Programme (NCSP) and demonstrate an interest and commitment to women’s health. This could be evidenced by promotion activities, follow-up/regular scheduled smears processes, participation in recommended activities to support the practices.

### Outcomes and evidence requirements

**Outcome 1**

Prepare women for cervical screening and participation in the National Cervical Screening Programme (NCSP).

**Evidence requirements**

1. Clients are treated with dignity and respect, in a culturally appropriate manner, and in accordance with legislative requirements and the NCSP Operational Policy and Quality Standards.

1.2 Clients are advised of the reasons for having a cervical smear taken, the process of having a cervical smear taken, and the manner in which they will receive their results in accordance with legislative requirements and the NCSP Operational Policy and Quality Standards.

Range advice includes – pathophysiology of cervical cancer, HPV and its effect on the cervix.
1.3 Demonstrate and incorporate methods of encouraging women (in particular high priority women) to participate in the NCSP in accordance with legislative requirements and the NCSP Operational Policy and Quality Standards.

Outcome 2

Take cervical smears.

Evidence requirements

2.1 Clients’ health history is obtained and considered, and a clinical assessment is made in respect of any signs and symptoms indicating possible abnormalities, in accordance with NCSP Operational Policy and Quality Standards.

Range clinical assessment includes – identification of when HPV testing should be offered as per NCSP guidelines.

2.2 The technique used for taking the cervical smear is likely to produce an optimal smear result and avoid unnecessary discomfort to the client in accordance with NCSP Operational Policy and Quality Standards.

Outcome 3

Interpret cervical smear results, initiate follow-up action, and complete documentation.

Evidence requirements

3.1 Results are interpreted according to laboratory recommendations, NCSP Operational Policy and Quality Standards, and clinical indications.

3.2 Follow-ups for all clients, from whom a cervical smear has been taken, are carried out in accordance with legislative requirements and the NCSP Operational Policy and Quality Standards.

3.3 Accurate and confidential record-keeping systems are maintained including an effective recall and transfer system in accordance with legislative requirements and the NCSP Operational Policy and Quality Standards.

3.4 An effective interface with the NCSP-Register is maintained in accordance with legislative requirements and the NCSP Operational Policy and Quality Standards.

Replacement information

This unit standard has been replaced by unit standard 29556.

This unit standard is expiring. Assessment against the standard must take place by the last date for assessment set out below.
Status information and last date for assessment for superseded versions

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Consent and Moderation Requirements (CMR) reference 0007


**Please note**

Providers must be granted consent to assess against standards (accredited) by NZQA, before they can report credits from assessment against unit standards or deliver courses of study leading to that assessment.

Industry Training Organisations must be granted consent to assess against standards by NZQA before they can register credits from assessment against unit standards.

Providers and Industry Training Organisations, which have been granted consent and which are assessing against unit standards must engage with the moderation system that applies to those standards.

Requirements for consent to assess and an outline of the moderation system that applies to this standard are outlined in the Consent and Moderation Requirements (CMR). The CMR also includes useful information about special requirements for organisations wishing to develop education and training programmes, such as minimum qualifications for tutors and assessors, and special resource requirements.