

# 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.

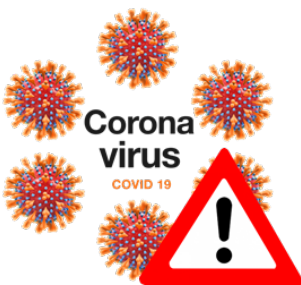


**Screening** means checking people for some types of cancer and other health problems. When cancer and health problems are found early, they are easier to treat.



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

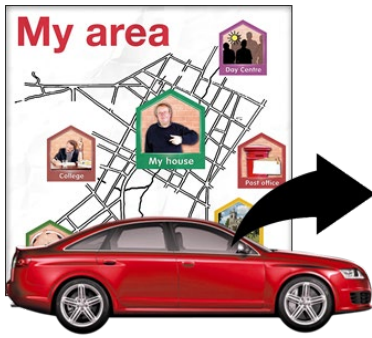
- Bowel screening
- Breast screening
- Newborn hearing screening.



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.



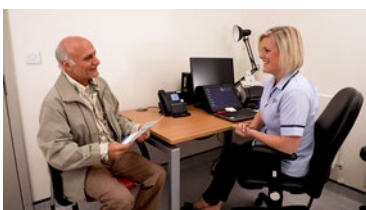
- You will be asked to wear a face covering.



- You will be asked to use hand sanitiser.



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

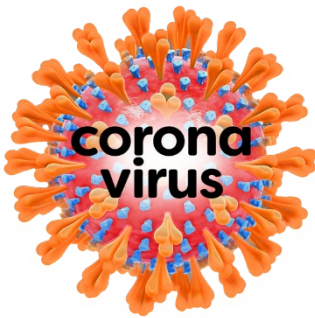


- There will be fewer people in our buildings. You will probably only see the person doing your test.



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](http://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.**