

Organisation Learning Summary

Category: Clinical/information governance

Preventing: Delayed diagnosis of cervical cancer around pregnancy

Key words: **Cervical Cancer, Pregnancy**

Date of Distribution:

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Sharing Learning Points

LOCAL



What happened?

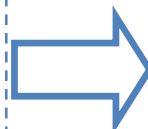
A small number of cases of cervical cancer, including late stages, have presented locally within a few months of pregnancy.

New presentations of cervical cancer are reviewed annually through the national invasive cancer audit process. A detailed review of cases presenting around pregnancy was undertaken to identify learning.



What went well?

Primary care and public health teams worked together to discuss cases and identify learning opportunities.



What, if anything, could we improve?

Cervical screening uptake, particularly in areas of deprivation.

Clinical examination to assess the appearance of the cervix.

Application of pregnancy exclusions in SCCRS.



What have we learned?

Ongoing bleeding post-partum can be mistakenly attributed to pregnancy, with false reassurance from ultrasound, infection and blood test investigations.

Having awareness of the full symptom history, spanning previous consultations, and including telephone and e-Consult consultations, is important.

The relevance of continuity of care and electronic records. Cervical screening results may not be immediately visible to clinicians when patients move practice. The importance of accurate coding of abnormal screening results in the patient's problem list, as a prominent reminder.

A training need was identified around asking about previous screening history and knowing how to look up cervical screening results in the patient record or SCCRS.

Pregnancy exclusions had not been applied for cases reviewed, which can delay screening recall. Local processes are being reviewed.

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Risk Grading for Distribution: Please refer to the [Risk Matrix](#) to assess the impact to another person, the service or the organisation if the learning was not implemented. This Risk Grade will determine the urgency of distribution and action of this Learning Summary in accordance with the table below.

Please tick the appropriate grading for urgency of distribution and action:

Risk Grade	Low	Moderate	High	Very High
Directorate Response time	35 calendar days	28 calendar days	21 calendar days	14 calendar days