

## Implementation of high-risk human papillomavirus (hrHPV) triage for cervical cancer screening

February 28, 2022

**Date effective: March 14, 2022**

### Background Information:

Shared Health Diagnostic Services, Dynacare and CancerCare Manitoba are introducing HPV reflex testing to Manitoba. The new process is called HPV reflex testing (also known as HPV triage). HPV reflex testing is used to detect high-risk human papillomavirus (hrHPV) on certain Pap tests to determine which patients require colposcopy versus those who can return to routine screening.

### Clinical Practice Change:

Effective March 14, 2022 cervical cytology labs in Manitoba will automatically perform high-risk human papillomavirus testing on the Pap test specimens of patients:

- 30 years of age and older with Atypical Squamous Cells of Undetermined Significance (ASCUS) Pap test results, or
- 50 years of age and older with Low-Grade Squamous Intraepithelial Lesion (LSIL) Pap test results.

Providers will receive one cervical cancer screening lab report with both the cytological interpretation and the high-risk HPV test result.

- Patients with hrHPV POSITIVE test results should be referred to colposcopy.
- Patients with hrHPV NEGATIVE test results should return to routine screening with Pap tests.
- Patients with hrHPV INVALID test results should have a repeat Pap test in six months.

### References/Resources:

- To view/download printed materials visit: [www.cancercare.mb.ca/screening/hcp](http://www.cancercare.mb.ca/screening/hcp)
- To view a recorded webinar entitled *HPV Triage: Enhancing cervical cancer screening in Manitoba*, visit <https://www.cancercare.mb.ca/screening/hcp/education>

### Patient Impact:

- Improved cervical cancer outcomes for Manitobans
- Reduced unnecessary treatment
- Reduced patient anxiety

### System Improvements:

- Integrated cervical pathology reports
- Reduced unnecessary testing
- More efficient cervical cancer screening will result in decreased time to colposcopy

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