

8-22 Patrick Street
PO Box 491
Stawell VIC 3380

☎ 03 5358 7555

🖨 03 5358 1669

✉ enquiries@psfamprac.com.au

🌐 www.psfamprac.com.au

NEWSLETTER



THE DOCTORS:

Dr Arthur Obi
MBBS, MRCOG (UK), MRCGP (UK),
FRACGP

Dr Felix Ogbo
MBBS, PhD

CLINIC STAFF:

Nursing: Anulika (Joy), Augusta &
Tammy

Reception/Admin: Teash, Emma, Jane
& Jodie

PRACTICE HOURS:

Patrick Street Family Practice's phones
are answered from 8:30am until close
Monday - Friday.

Our doors are open:

Monday: 8:00am – 6:00pm

Tuesday: 8:00am – 6:00pm

Wednesday: 8:00am – 6:00pm

Thursday: 8:00am – 9:00pm

Friday: 8:00am – 6:00pm

AFTER HOURS CARE:

For after hours care please call the GP
Helpline on **1800 022 222**. In case of an
emergency dial **000** and ask for an
ambulance.

VISITING SPECIALISTS & SERVICES:

Dr Hemant Chaudhary Cardiologist

Dr Chris Hengel Cardiologist

Dr Rodney Reddy Cardiologist

Kristie Austin Clinical Psychologist

Grampians Podiatry

Hearing Australia

Continence Nurse

Flying Doctors Telehealth Addiction,
Cardiology, Endocrinology, Geriatrics,
Paediatrics, Pain, Psychiatry, Respiratory
& Wellbeing

Australian Clinical Labs

INTERPRETER SERVICES:

Please notify reception prior to your
appointment if you require any
interpreter services.

❖ **APPOINTMENTS**

All consultations are by appointment only. Appointments can be made by calling the
practice on (03) 5358 7555.

Please let reception know if you require a longer appointment. If more than one family
member needs to see the doctor, please ensure an appointment is made for each
person.

Please advise reception if you are unable to attend an appointment so the reserved
time can be allocated to another patient.

Missed Appointment Policy Patients who fail to attend an appointment or provide
sufficient notice to cancel their appointment may incur a fee of \$50. This fee is not
claimable through Medicare and needs to be paid before any further appointments.

❖ **BILLING**

**We are a private practice and payment is required on the day by cash, cheque or
eftpos.** We can claim your rebate immediately from Medicare using Easyclaim onto
your cheque or savings card. Bulk billing is available for children 16 years and
under, patients aged 65 years and over, concession card holders, and Diabetics.

❖ **CONTACT DETAILS**

It is important to let us know at each appointment if any of your contact details have
changed.

❖ **REPEAT PRESCRIPTIONS**

Script requests are provided at the discretion of the doctor for a fee of \$30 (or \$20 for
Concession Card Holders).

❖ **REFERRALS**

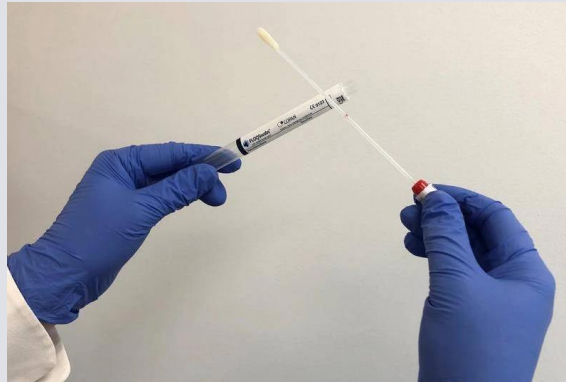
New referrals require the patient to be seen by the doctor. Referrals are current for 12
months, please check with your specialist if your referral is current as they *cannot be*
back-dated.

❖ **COMMUNICATION**

To allow each patient the best consultation possible, our doctors prefer not to be
interrupted by phone calls. Our practice staff are happy to take a message and pass this
along to the doctor. Emails are only to be used for correspondence of a non-sensitive
nature and are checked daily.

➤ **Practice information continued on last page...**

Cervical Screening



Cervical screening saves lives

Having regular cervical screening tests can prevent around 90% of cervical cancers through early detection and treatment.

Most people who develop cervical cancer in Australia are either overdue for screening or have never been screened.

[Cervical cancer](#) often has no symptoms, especially in the early stages when cervical cell changes take place.

The Cervical Screening Test checks for the presence of the [human papilloma virus \(HPV\)](#) – a virus that can cause cervical cancer.

Who is eligible for cervical screening?

Screening is available for eligible people through the [National Cervical Screening Program](#).

A Cervical Screening Test is available to:

- Women and people with a cervix (25 to 74 years) who have ever been sexually active.

If you have had a hysterectomy, you should discuss whether you need a Cervical Screening Test with your healthcare provider.

Cervical screening is recommended (every 5 years) even if you feel healthy, or have had [the HPV vaccine](#).

Cervical screening is free under [Medicare](#) for eligible people. However, your GP or healthcare provider may charge a standard consultation fee for the appointment.

If you are unsure or would like to know more about fees, check with your clinic when booking the appointment.

If you are over 75, you can still ask to have a subsidised cervical screening test – talk to your GP or healthcare provider.

Even if you don't fall into the categories above, if you experience any symptoms including abnormal vaginal bleeding, pain during sex or unusual vaginal discharge, see your GP or healthcare provider as soon as possible.

How do I know when I need to have my cervical screening test?

Eligible people usually get a letter from the GP and/or the National Cancer Screening Register inviting them to take a Cervical Screening Test. If this does not happen or you are unsure whether you need to be tested:

- Contact your GP or health service, OR
- You can use the National Cancer Screening Register to:
 - review and update your personal information
 - check your screening test history and when your next screening is due
 - manage your participation.

For more information, visit the [National Cancer Screening Register website](#) or Tel. [1800 627 701](#).

If you don't have a preferred GP or health service, search the [National Health Services Directory](#) to find a clinic in your local area.

What are my choices for cervical screening?

From 1 July 2022, the National Cervical Screening Program (NCSP) has expanded screening test options, offering self-collection as a choice for all people participating in cervical screening.

This change means you have 2 options for your Cervical Screening Test and you can decide what's right for you. All methods are just as safe and effective at detecting HPV.

Option 1: Self-collection

Your healthcare provider will give you a self-collection swab to collect a sample of cells from your vagina. Your healthcare provider will give you a private space for you to [collect your own test sample](#). They can explain how to do the test and help you if you need it.

Option 2: Healthcare provider collected sample

Your healthcare provider can do a Cervical Screening Test for you using a speculum and a small brush to take a sample of cells from your cervix. The speculum will be gently inserted into your vagina to hold it open so the cervix can be seen clearly. It is important to tell your healthcare provider if you experience any discomfort.

Whichever option you choose, the sample will be sent to the laboratory for testing and your healthcare provider will let you know how you will get your results.

The female reproductive system with the location of the vagina and cervix.

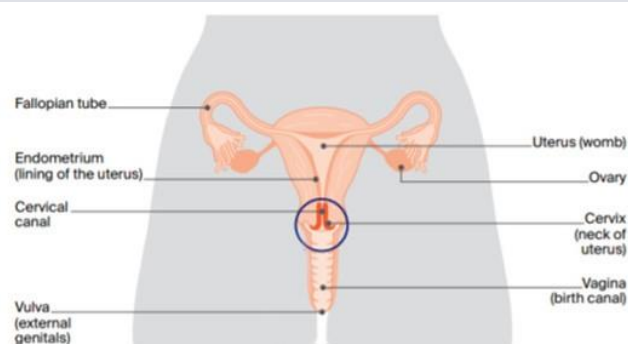


Image courtesy of Cancer Council

How to organise your cervical screening test

Cervical Screening Tests are available from:

- your GP (doctor)
- community health centre
- women's health centre
- family planning clinics
- Aboriginal medical service or Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Service
- [Sexual Health Victoria \(SHV\)](#) – service is youth friendly. To book an appointment call:
 - SHV Melbourne CBD Clinic Tel. [\(03\) 9660 4700](#)
 - SHV Box Hill Clinic Tel. [\(03\) 9257 0100](#) or free call [1800 013 952](#).

If you prefer, you can also ask for a female healthcare provider to do your test or support you if you choose self-collection.

Getting your cervical screening test results

When your results are ready, they will be sent to the:

- clinic where you had your test (or to a clinic that you nominate)
- [National Cancer Screening Register](#).

What does my result mean?

Your healthcare provider will talk to you about your Cervical Screening Test results. Based on your results, your healthcare provider may recommend that you:

- return to screen in 5 years
- return for another sample collected by your healthcare provider
- repeat the test in 12 months
- repeat the Cervical Screening Test due to unsatisfactory test result
- are referred to a specialist.

Return to screen in 5 years

This means that your screening results show you do not have an HPV infection. Your next screening will be in 5 years. The National Cancer Screening Register will send you a reminder. You can update your address directly through the [National Register](#) Tel. [1800 627 701](#).

Return for another sample collected by your healthcare provider

This means that you have provided a self-collect sample and your screening results show you have an HPV infection. When there is an HPV infection, it is important to check if the infection has caused changes to the cervical cells.

As a self-collect sample does not have cervical cells to check for cell changes, you are asked to return to your healthcare provider who will collect a sample that will include cervical cells.

Repeat the test in 12 months

This means that your screening results show you have an HPV infection that is likely to be cleared by your body within the next 12 months. You are asked to have a repeat test in 12 months to check that the infection has gone, and you are safe to return to screening every 5 years.

If the repeat test in 12 months shows the HPV infection has not gone, you may be asked to return for a second repeat test in another 12 months, or you may need referral to a specialist.

Repeat the Cervical Screening Test due to unsatisfactory test result

An unsatisfactory test result happens when your sample cannot be checked properly by the laboratory. An unsatisfactory test result does not mean there is something wrong. If you have an unsatisfactory test result it is important to repeat the test in 6 to 12 weeks.

Referral to a specialist

This means that your screening results show you have a type of HPV infection that needs further investigation by a specialist. This does not mean you have developed cancer. You will be referred to a specialist for a follow-up test, known as a [colposcopy](#). Please make sure you follow the instructions from your healthcare provider if you are referred to a specialist.

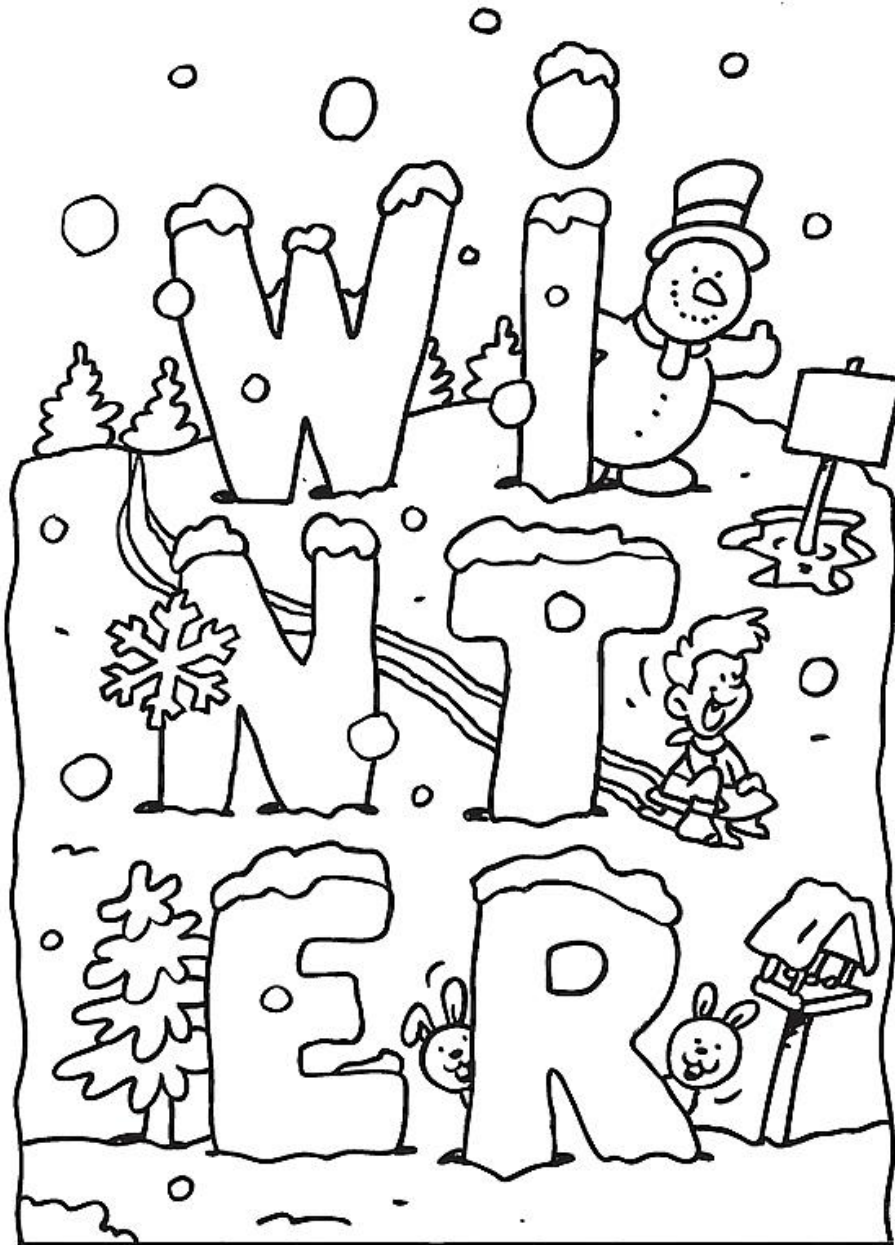
Remember, always see your GP or healthcare provider earlier if you notice any unusual changes or have any concerns.

Where to get help

- Your [GP \(doctor\)](#)
- [Sexual Health Victoria \(SHV\)](#). To book an appointment call:
 - SHV Melbourne CBD Clinic Tel. [\(03\) 9660 4700](#)
 - SHV Box Hill Clinic Tel. [\(03\) 9257 0100](#) or free call [1800 013 952](#).
- [National Cervical Screening Program](#)
- [National Cancer Screening Register](#) Tel. [1800 627 701](#)
- [Australian Centre for the Prevention of Cervical Cancer](#) Tel. [03 9250 0300](#)
- [Cancer Council Victoria](#) Tel. [13 11 20](#)
 - [Support in your own language](#) Tel. [13 14 50](#)
- Use the [National Health Services Directory](#) to find a health service near you

This information has been provided by the Better Health Channel at www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au

For the Kids:



Patient Notices:



FACE MASKS

Masks **must** still be worn when entering the practice, please remember to bring one to all appointments.

SERVICES:

- Men's Health
- Women's Health
- Children's Health (including Childhood Immunisations)
- Family Planning
- Antenatal Care
- Chronic Disease Management
- COVID-19 Vaccinations
- Travel Health (including Yellow Fever Vaccinations)
- Minor Surgeries (Suturing, Ingrown Toenails, Sunspots, Removal of Moles, etc.)
- Health Assessments
- Mental Health
- Q Fever Testing and Immunisation
- Pre-Employment Medical Assessments
- ECG's
- Urine Drug Screens

RESULTS:

If you wish to discuss any results, an appointment needs to be made with your doctor. If you have any results requiring immediate action, you will be contacted to make a follow-up appointment with your doctor.

PRIVACY:

Patrick Street Family Practice respects your privacy. Your medical record is a confidential document. It is the policy of this practice to maintain security of personal health information at all times and to ensure that this information is only available to authorised members of staff. A copy of our Privacy Policy is available upon request.

COMMENTS/FEEDBACK:

Patrick Street Family Practice values all comments and feedback, and take all suggestions seriously. We take all feedback under advisement as part of our continuous quality improvements. For minor feedback/suggestions that we may be able to deal with immediately, please contact us in person at the practice or phone us on (03) 5358 7555. For matters requiring more consideration, please put your feedback in writing and place it in the Suggestions Box at Reception.