

# Cervical screening

## Information for Patients

It is best to perform a Pap smear between the 10th and 20th day of the menstrual cycle. The test can be done no earlier than 2 days after the end of the last menstrual period and no later than 4 days before the expected start of the next one. If you have a vaginal infection, it must be treated before the examination.

### How to prepare?

- Do not use any vaginal medications for **4 days prior to the test**.
- Refrain from sexual intercourse for **24 hours before the examination**.
- **For 24 hours before the test**, avoid:
  - gynecological examination,
  - transvaginal ultrasound,
  - any procedures involving sample collection from the vagina and/or cervical canal for bacteriological (culture) or virological analysis.

### What to bring?

Results of previous Pap smears, histological tests, and colposcopies.

### Medications

On the day of the examination, take all your regular medications (except for vaginal medications).

### What questions will you be asked?

#### The doctor may ask you about:

- the date of your last menstrual period,
- the length of your menstrual cycles (a menstrual cycle is counted from the first day of one period to the first day of the next),
- any previous childbirths, miscarriages, or surgeries involving the reproductive organs,
- any treatment for conditions affecting the cervix, vagina, or vulva,
- the results of previous Pap smears, histological tests, and colposcopies,
- medications you are currently taking (especially hormonal medications),
- any discomfort or symptoms (e.g., pain) experienced during or shortly after previous Pap smears.

### Are there any contraindications?

No. The test can be performed:

- on women of any age,
- during pregnancy,
- multiple times, depending on the medical indications determined by your doctor or midwife.