

An Easy Guide to Cervical Screening

Illustrated by Beth Webb











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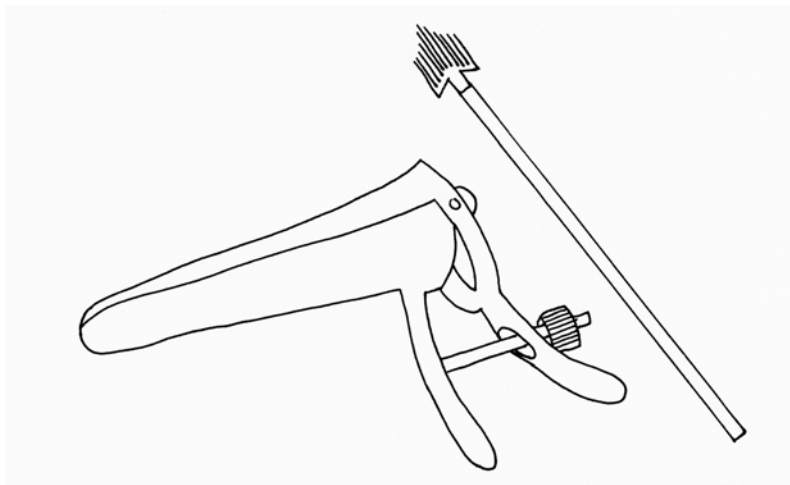






A suggested storyline

1. All women need to keep healthy down below.
2. All women over 25 are invited to come for cervical screening. Having cervical screening is a way of looking for changes down below. Some of these changes may become cancer. This sort of cancer is called cervical cancer. It can be prevented if the changes are found early enough. Screening can also find the virus that causes cervical cancer.
3. The doctor or nurse will talk to you to help you decide if you need to have cervical screening.
4. You can decide if you want to have cervical screening.
5. A doctor or nurse will take the screening test. They use a speculum and a special brush like this:



The test sample is sent away to be looked at carefully.

6. You will be sent a letter about the results of your screening test. If everything is OK with the test you will be invited for another one in a few years' time.
7. You can ask someone to tell you more about cervical screening.

A picture book called *Keeping Healthy Down Below* gives more information about cervical screening. The book can be ordered from the publisher, Beyond Words:
www.booksbeyondwords.co.uk

How to read this leaflet

This is a story for people who find pictures easier to understand than words. It is not necessary to be able to read any words at all.

1. Start at the beginning and read the story in each picture. Encourage the reader to turn the pages at their own pace.
2. Whether you are reading the story with one person or with a group, encourage them to tell the story in their own words. You will discover what each person thinks is happening, what they already know, and how they feel. You may think something different is happening in the pictures yourself, but that doesn't matter. Wait to see if their ideas change as the story develops. Watch, wait and wonder.
3. It can help to prompt the people you are supporting, gradually going deeper into the meaning, for example:
 - I wonder who that is?
 - I wonder what is happening?
 - What is he or she doing now?
 - I wonder how he or she is feeling?
 - Do you feel like that? Has it happened to you/ your friend/ your family?
4. Some people will not be able to follow the story, but they may be able to understand some of the pictures. Stay a little longer with the pictures that interest them.



Beyond Words

empowering people through pictures

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