



An tSeirbhís Náisiúnta Scagthástála  
National Screening Service

16 February 2021

Deputy Mary Lou McDonald  
[marylou.mcdonald@oireachtas.ie](mailto:marylou.mcdonald@oireachtas.ie)

Our Ref: HM/Communications

**PQ5371/21: To ask the Minister for Health if scheduled cervical screening appointments for persons based in an area (details supplied) have been fully reinstated under current level 5 Covid-19 restrictions; and if he will make a statement on the matter.**

**Details supplied:** the Dublin Central constituency

Dear Deputy,

I refer to the above Parliamentary Question.

CervicalCheck is aware that some GP practices and community clinics may not be able to offer cervical screening appointments, or may be operating at reduced capacity, in the short term due to the pressures of the third wave of COVID-19.

CervicalCheck continues to support GP practices and community clinics making individual decisions about the level of screening that is safe for them to provide, as they adhere to Government guidelines and Public Health advice about the spread of COVID-19.

We continue to ask women to keep in touch with their GP and to take the earliest appointment offered to them, even if it is four to six weeks away. We are also letting women know that they do not need to book for screening with their own GP, and can book with any sampletaker in their area. A list of registered sampletakers is available on our website [here](#).

We do not have a mechanism for capturing temporary closures and re-openings of individual clinics, such as in the case of a provider having to restrict services due to a positive COVID-19 case or close contact.

However, our preliminary data shows that the majority of registered cervical screening providers were operational and took samples nationally in January 2021.

We continue to ask that people do not attend their appointment if they are unwell or self-isolating because they have symptoms of COVID-19. People should not attend either if they are a confirmed close contact of someone who has tested positive for coronavirus.

Cervical screening is for well people who do not have symptoms. Anyone who is worried about symptoms at any time is advised not to wait for screening but to contact their GP immediately, for appropriate follow-up care.

For other queries patients can call the Freephone information line on 1800 45 45 55, email [info@screeningservice.ie](mailto:info@screeningservice.ie) or contact their clinic directly.

I trust this information is of assistance to you, but should you have any further queries please contact me.

Teach Óstaí an Rí, 200 Sráid Parnell, Baile Átha Cliath D01 A3Y8. King's Inn House, 200 Parnell Street, Dublin 1, D01 A3Y8.  
☎ 353 1 865 9300 ✉ [info@screeningservice.ie](mailto:info@screeningservice.ie) [www.screeningservice.ie](http://www.screeningservice.ie)



An tSeirbhís Náisiúnta Scagthástála  
National Screening Service



BreastCheck  
An Clár Náisiúnta Scagthástála Cúc  
The National Breast Screening Programme



CervicalCheck  
AN CLÁR NAISIÚNTA SCAGHTÁSTÁLA CEIRBEACS  
THE NATIONAL CERVICAL SCREENING PROGRAMME



BowelScreen  
An Clár Náisiúnta Scagthástála Putóige  
The National Bowel Screening Programme



Diabetic  
RetinaScreen  
An Clár Náisiúnta Scagthástála Retiní do Diaibéiteigh  
The National Diabetic Retinal Screening Programme



An tSeirbhís Náisiúnta Scagthástála  
National Screening Service

Fiona Murphy  
Chief Executive  
National Screening Service

Teach Óstaí an Rí, 200 Sráid Parnell, Baile Átha Cliath D01 A3Y8. King's Inn House, 200 Parnell Street, Dublin 1, D01 A3Y8.  
☎ 353 1 865 9300 ✉ info@screeningservice.ie www.screeningservice.ie



An tSeirbhís Náisiúnta Scagthástála  
National Screening Service



BreastCheck  
An Clár Náisiúnta Scagthástála Cúc  
The National Breast Screening Programme



CervicalCheck  
AN CLÁR NAISIÚNTA SCAGTHÁSTÁLA CEIRBEACS  
THE NATIONAL CERVICAL SCREENING PROGRAMME



BowelScreen  
An Clár Náisiúnta Scagthástála Putóige  
The National Bowel Screening Programme



Diabetic RetinaScreen  
An Clár Náisiúnta Scagthástála Retiní do Dhiabéiteigh  
The National Diabetic Retinal Screening Programme