



An tSeirbhís Náisiúnta Scagthástála
National Screening Service

02 May 2023

Deputy Holly Cairns
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Our Ref: HM/Communications

PQ18351/23: To ask the Minister for Health when HPV and cytology sample processing for CervicalCheck will be resumed in the Coombe Hospital.

Dear Deputy,

I refer to the above Parliamentary Question.

Due to administrative delays in completing accreditation processes with the Irish National Accreditation Board (INAB), the HPV and cytology screening accreditation at the National Cervical Screening laboratory (NCSL) has been suspended pending completion of the process to resolve its outstanding compliance issues. These administrative delays relate to the failure to submit the required paperwork relating to non-conformities identified by INAB, primarily around a change management process within the specified timeframe.

Sample processing for CervicalCheck will not resume until the laboratory has been reaccredited by INAB. This will require a visit from INAB to re-inspect the laboratory, and the timing of that visit will depend on the availability of INAB inspectors. The Coombe Hospital and the National Cervical Screening Service continue to work with INAB to secure reaccreditation as a priority.

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

Yours sincerely,

Fiona Murphy,
Chief Executive.

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