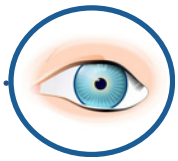
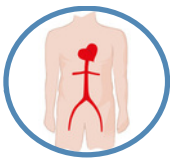
GIG CYMRU NHS WALES
Iechyd Cyhoeddus Cymru
Public Health Wales

HM Prison & Probation Service

Improving access to screening for people within the justice system

Age		Health screening
12+		Diabetic eye
25-64		Cervical
50-70		Breast
50-74		Bowel
65		Abdominal aortic aneurysm

www.phw.nhs.wales/screening

V1: 11/26

Scan here

Introduction

This guide has been developed in partnership with the probation service and prison healthcare teams.

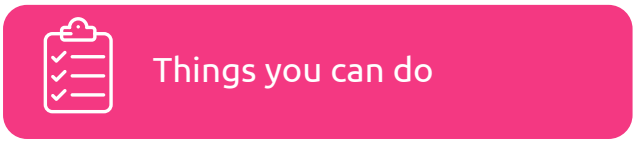
It sets out how you can support people to find out about and take part in NHS screening in Wales.

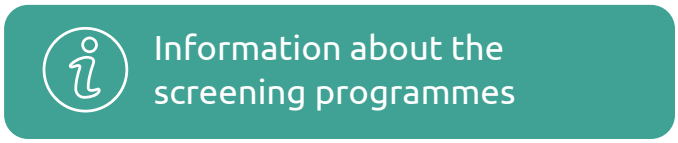
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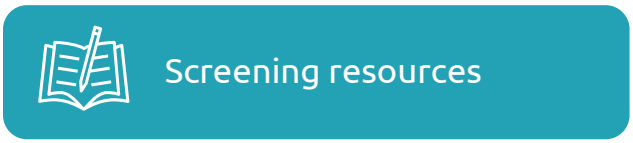
- you work within the probation service
- you work within the prison setting
- your role involves supporting people who have been in or are currently within the justice system.

Screening looks for early signs of a health condition, like cancer, in people who feel well and do not have symptoms. Finding a condition early gives you the best chance of successful treatment.

This guide includes:









People within the justice system often face considerable barriers to understanding and accessing screening information.[1]

Research shows that these individuals often experience higher rates of physical and mental health conditions compared to the general population.[2]

You can play an important role in promoting health and wellbeing by raising awareness of screening, helping people understand the benefits and supporting them to take part.

1. Cresswell-Jones, P., August 2024. All Wales Guidance on Continuity of Primary Health Care across Justice and Community settings.
2. York, M., 2023 A Health and Social Care Needs assessment for residents in Approved Premises in Wales Accessed: March 2025.

Things you can do

- Check if the person you are supporting is eligible for screening.
- Talk about screening with the people you support.
- Share and display screening resources (see page 6).
- Support people to read and understand their screening letters and information. Accessible resources such as Easy Read and videos are available on the screening programme websites.
- Let people know they can ask for their screening information in different languages and accessible formats.
- Attend screening awareness training to improve your screening knowledge.

Approach conversations with **care** and **respect** as screening can be a sensitive subject for many people, and they may not want to talk about it openly.

Information about screening programmes

Diabetic Eye Screening

Diabetic eye screening can save your sight by finding changes early. The test looks for damage to the back of the eye (retinopathy).

Who: Everyone aged 12 and over with diabetes
When: Every one or two years depending on your risk of diabetic eye disease
Test: Photographs of the eye

Scan here

phw.nhs.wales/diabetic-eye-screening

0300 003 0500

Cervical Screening

Cervical screening can prevent cervical cancer from developing. The test looks for the human papillomavirus (HPV) that can cause cell changes.

Who: Women and people with a cervix aged 25 - 64
When: Every 5 years
Test: Cervical screening (smear) test

Scan here

phw.nhs.wales/cervical-screening

0300 003 0033

Breast Screening

Breast screening looks for early signs of breast cancer when they are too small to see or feel.

Who: Women aged 50 up to 70 (70 and over if you ask)
When: Every 3 years
Test: Breast x-ray

Scan here

phw.nhs.wales/breast-screening

N Wales: 01492 860888 | **SE Wales:** 029 2039 7222
Mid & W Wales: 01792 459988

Bowel Screening

Bowel screening looks for early signs of bowel cancer when treatment is more likely to be effective.

Who: People aged 50 to 74

When: Every 2 years

Test: Poo sample kit completed at home and returned by post

Scan here

phw.nhs.wales/bowel-screening

0800 294 3370

Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm Screening

Abdominal aortic aneurysm screening (AAA) looks for a swelling (aneurysm) in the main blood vessel (aorta) in the abdomen. Screening can save lives from ruptured abdominal aortic aneurysms.

Who: Men aged 65 (over 65 and never had an AAA scan)

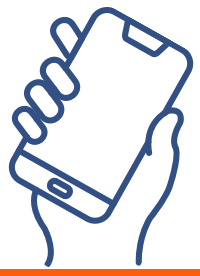
When: One-off test

Test: Ultrasound

Scan here

phw.nhs.wales/aaa-screening

0300 003 0510



Scan the QR codes to find out more information about each screening programme.



What you can do if:

A person is not registered with a doctor

Encourage people you support to register with a doctor. People need to be registered with a doctor to receive an automatic invitation for screening. If they are unable to register and would like to take part in screening, they can contact the relevant screening programme.

Screening programme contact details can be found on **pages 3** and **4.**

A person has no fixed address

Support people to contact the screening programme to provide a temporary or care of address. All screening letters are automatically sent to the registered address held by the person's doctor.



A person has taken part in screening

Share the screening programme contact details with the person if they have taken part in screening but are unsure of their results and what should happen next.

A person has signs and symptoms

Encourage the person to speak to their doctor if they have symptoms or are worried about a change in their health. Screening is for people who feel well and do not have symptoms. Information about signs and symptoms can be found on each programme website.

A person is in prison

Ensure you are aware what screening programmes are offered within your prison setting. Identify who is eligible for bowel, diabetic eye and abdominal aortic aneurysm screening. Provide appropriate screening information to allow them to make an informed choice. **Contact the screening programmes on a regular basis** to ensure the list of eligible individuals is kept up to date and accurate.

A person in prison has a positive screening result

If a person has taken part in screening and has had a positive result, it is important they access further support and follow up appointments. **Contact the screening programmes to discuss and coordinate follow up appointments.**

Screening resources and information

Hard copy resources

You can order screening z-cards and posters by emailing: screening.engagement@wales.nhs.uk with your delivery address and the quantity you need.

Digital resources

There is a selection of digital and downloadable resources on the screening Padlet.

For prison specific resources email screening.engagement@wales.nhs.uk.

Scan here

People who are transgender or non-binary

This webpage provides screening information for people who are transgender and non-binary.

Scan here

Videos

A selection of videos are available on the screening webpages:

What is screening?

This video explains what screening is.

Breast screening - What to expect

This video helps people understand what breast screening is and why it is important.

Diabetic eye screening - What to expect

This video helps people understand what diabetic eye screening is and why it is important

Bowel screening - how to do the bowel screening test

This animation shows people how to complete the bowel test kit.

