



A joint research initiative



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Compass SA - Practitioner Information Sheet

What is the Compass Trial?

The Compass Trial is comparing HPV testing to the Pap smear for cervical cancer screening. This trial is the largest ever to be conducted in Australia, with the aim of recruiting 120,000 women.

Practitioners participating in the Compass Trial are making a valuable contribution to important research which we believe will make the Cervical Screening Program better for all women - in Australia and overseas.

The trial is of international significance as it is the first to evaluate an HPV vaccinated cohort moving through the cervical screening program. Outcomes of this trial will inform both national and international cervical screening policies.

We need your help!

GPs are the largest providers of cervical screening services in Australia and are vital to the successful implementation of the new National Cervical Screening Program (NCSP) due to commence on the 1st December 2017. The Compass Trial has been designed for and is being conducted in general practices and community health settings.

We are recruiting women aged 25-37 (at least 25 and born on or after 1st July 1980).

The Trial has been extremely successful in Victoria with more than 500 GP clinics participating and 66,525 women recruited to date.

Benefits of participating

As part of the trial, we will provide accredited training and ongoing phone support from a team of Liaison Physicians with access to pathologists, cytologists and scientists with extensive expertise in cervical cancer screening.

Accredited education sessions

GPs participating in the trial are eligible to take part in the Compass ALM and earn 40 category 1 QI&CPD points and Women's Health points for the current 2017-2019 triennium.

Education sessions take 1 hour and are a compulsory component of the Compass Trial ALM. These sessions will prepare GPs and their practices for the renewed National Cervical Screening Program (NCSP) as well as enabling the recruitment of eligible South Australian women.

Our team of Liaison Physicians will be in South Australia from **Monday 14th August to Friday 18th August** for **early morning, lunch and evening education sessions**.

If you are unable to attend a face-to-face education session, we are also offering online webinars.



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These sessions are for general practitioners and practice teams including practice managers, nurses, GP trainees and medical students. These 1 hour sessions will:

- Be delivered by a Liaison Physician experienced in educating and supporting cervical screening practitioners around the current and new programs
- Provide GPs with a working understanding of the key practical implications of the new NCSP for their practice
- Give GPs a sound understanding of the role HPV plays in the aetiology of cervical cancer, and confidence to be able to explain the new Program to their patients
- Include a Q&A session to allow practitioners to discuss issues and concerns.

Ongoing support

A comprehensive clinical support service run by Liaison Physicians is available for participating GPs which includes assistance with:

- Interpreting Cervical Screening Test (CST) results and new terminology
- Sampling techniques and the new cervical screening test
- Follow-up advice and new management recommendations
- Cervical screening history information.

Booking an education session

To secure a Compass Trial education session or arrange a webinar, email On-CallLP@vcs.org.au or call (03) 9250 0300.

Please confirm:

- Date for the session: Monday 16th, Tuesday 17th, Wednesday 18th, Thursday 19th or Friday 20th August, 2017.
- Timing for the session: please select an hour session between 0730-2130.
- Number of attendees.

Please note that Health Practitioners and Trial Participants will not receive any payment or compensation for their involvement in the Trial in accordance with Ethics. Compass education sessions do not include the provision of refreshments.

Who is conducting the trial?

The Compass Trial is being conducted by the Victorian Cytology Service (VCS) and Cancer Council NSW.

- VCS is a not-for-profit organisation which has been caring for Victorian women's cervical health for over 50 years
- Cancer Council NSW is Australia's leading cancer charity, uniting the community, providing support, investing in research and saving lives.