

Chapter 1: Introduction

Welcome to the CervixCheck, CancerCare Manitoba's Cervical Cancer Screening Learning Module for Healthcare Providers (HCPs). This module has been developed in consultation with Manitoba stakeholders in cervical cancer screening. It has been adapted with permission from the Alberta Cervical Cancer Screening Programs (ACCSP) Registered Nurse Pap Smear Learning Module.

The Cervical Cancer Screening Learning Module can be found at:
<https://www.cancercare.mb.ca/screening/hcp/education>

Target Audience and Purpose

The Cervical Cancer Screening Learning Module is for physicians, registered nurses, advanced practice nurses, licensed practical nurses, registered midwives, clinical assistants and/or physician assistants in Manitoba seeking to:

- **Initiate** learning about cervical cancer and competency to perform cervical cancer screening tests,
- **Mentor** colleagues to become competent in screening for cervical cancer, and/or
- **Review** current research, details and techniques about cervical cancer screening in Manitoba.

The purpose of the module is to:

- Provide employers and HCPs with an accessible and standardized resource to support community based cervical cancer screening competency training using local human resources,
- Support the Regional Health Authorities to increase the number of HCPs providing quality access to cervical cancer screening services,
- Enhance service by facilitating cervical cancer screening competency for nurses, physician assistants and clinical assistants, and
- Provide materials to support ongoing evaluation of cervical cancer screening services.

Client-Centered Service

In order to respond to the diverse needs of clients, recruit participation in underscreened communities and enhance the quality of service in Manitoba, CervixCheck facilitates a client-centered approach to cervical cancer screening. This approach helps to facilitate cervical screening services that are accessible, appropriate and acceptable for all eligible clients.

Client-centered care¹ includes values such as:

- respect;
- human dignity;
- clients as the expert in their own lives;
- clients as a co-manager of their healthcare plan;
- continuity of care;
- timeliness;
- responsiveness; and
- Universal access to care.

<p>On completion of the learning module theory and practicum, the learner will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Demonstrate an understanding of cervical cancer, disease burden and cervical screening in Manitoba.2. Understand screening eligibility, initiation, frequency and cessation, as well as circumstances that require increased surveillance.3. Demonstrate an understanding of the benefits and harms associated with cervical cancer screening.4. Demonstrate an understanding of the education and communication needs of clients before, during and after an exam.5. Identify the special learning and counselling needs of clients with special considerations.6. Demonstrate an understanding of normal and abnormal female pelvic anatomy and physiology.7. Demonstrate an understanding of and competently perform a speculum exam and specimen collection.8. Demonstrate an understanding of the appropriate follow-up for abnormal findings and the CervixCheck Screening Guidelines.9. Demonstrate an understanding of the HPV vaccines, liquid based cytology and HPV testing.10. Identify the colleges and licensing bodies associated with standards of practice for all Manitoba HCPs, as well as sources of information for understanding confidentiality, informed consent, privacy, accountability and responsibility as it relates to healthcare in Manitoba.	<p>Learning Objectives</p>
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Competency Requirements

The HCP will first *partner with a preceptor* to oversee the activities outlined for cervical cancer screening competency. Cervical cancer screening competency activities should include:

1. Theory: a self-paced review of all module contents (text and video's)

- i. Read chapter 1 of module
- ii. Complete module pre-test
- iii. Read remaining contents of module
- iv. View module videos at <https://www.cancercare.mb.ca/screening/hcp/education>
- v. Complete module post-test (obtaining a mark of 85%)

2. Practicum: the preceptor will facilitate the following learning activities:

- i. *Observe* preceptor conduct at least 5 clinical Pap test visits with clients
- ii. Perform at least 10-20 *supervised* Pap tests within 2 months
- iii. Perform 15-30 *unsupervised* Pap tests within 2 months
- iv. Discuss all components of competency and complete any additional theoretical and/or practical learning needs as required

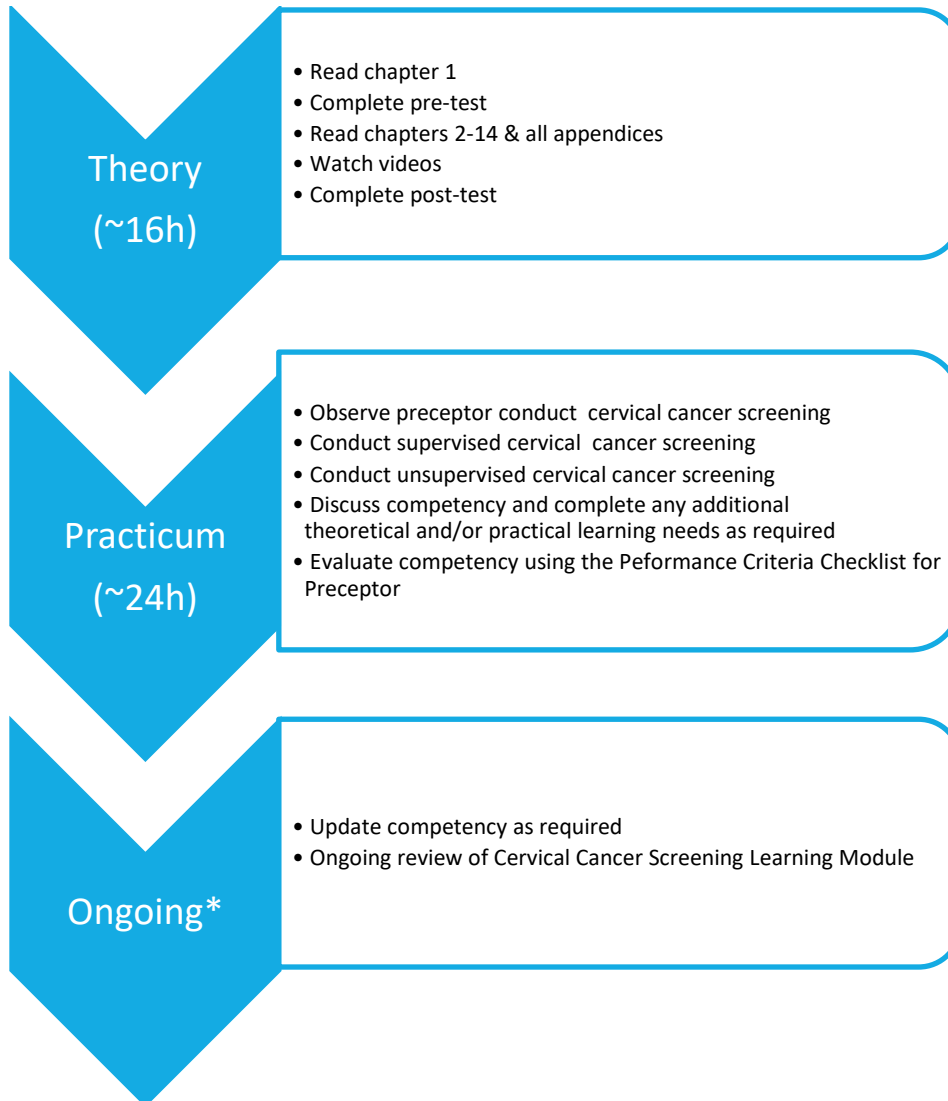
***Note:** The above is a suggested guideline for the HCPs practical experience. The number of cervical cancer screenings that the HCP completes during the practicum may range. Emphasis should be placed on **quality** of performance rather than quantity of tests performed. The HCP should observe and demonstrate until they feel comfortable and confident and are deemed competent by the preceptor.

3. Evaluation: Competency will be assessed using the Performance Criteria Checklist for Preceptor (obtaining a mark of 100%) (see Appendix 3).

It is important for HCPs to have a diverse clinical experience to be proficient in determining normal from abnormal cervical variations. For example, an HCP who only observes healthy young women, may not have the skills to properly assess a multiparous women who may have many cervical lacerations. Please see the Cervical Cancer Screening Learning Module video “At your cervix: What’s normal anyway?” to visualize carcinoma and other abnormalities of the cervix.

**Important
Information**

Competency Requirements Summary Table



It is the employer and HCP's responsibility to review ongoing competency. It is recommended that a formal process be developed for such review.

Important Information

*See Competency Requirements Summary below for guidelines on number of Pap tests, etc.

Obtaining a CervixCheck Provider Number

Nurses, clinical assistants and physician assistants should obtain a CervixCheck provider number (Nurses: N###, Clinical Assistants: 22###, Physician Assistants: 72##) from CervixCheck at such point cervical cancer screening becomes part of their professional practice. The CervixCheck provider identifies the specimen taker on the cytology requisition form and links the HCP with a Pap test and any subsequent follow-up.

To request a CervixCheck provider number, complete the form in Appendix 2 and submit to CervixCheck.

Scope of Practice for those who can Perform Cervical Cancer Screening

In the province of Manitoba, the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Manitoba, the College of Registered Nurses of Manitoba, the College of Midwives of Manitoba, the College of Licensed Practical Nurses of Manitoba and the College of Registered Psychiatric Nurses of Manitoba have the professional responsibility for standards of practice for all physicians, physician assistants, clinical assistants, nurses and midwives in the province. Each profession and jurisdiction within Manitoba are responsible for having in depth knowledge of legislative acts which impact scope of practice. Each professional body covers members with liability insurance and each professional is responsible for his/her own competent practice. This learning module does not replace the scope of practice, nor does it exist to define it. Each professional is responsible for their own scope of practice, competencies and procedures of their facility or region.

Find below, links to licensing bodies, colleges and policies that support practice in Manitoba. All questions regarding individual scope of practice should be directed to your appropriate college.

College of Physicians & Surgeons of Manitoba

By-Law #11

Delegation of Function: Principles

Shared Competencies and Delegated Physician Services

Clinical Assistants

College of Registered Nurses of Manitoba

College of Midwives of Manitoba

College of Licensed Practical Nurses of Manitoba

College of Registered Psychiatric Nurses of Manitoba

Office of Physician Assistant Studies

The Regulated Health Professionals Act

Professional Responsibility and Accountability

The HCP, employer, educational facilities, as well as the professional college or body, are accountable for providing education to the HCP to be competent cervical cancer screening providers, as well as facilitate ongoing education and maintenance of competencies.

Best practices advise that the HCP and/or the employer of HCPs who are expected to provide Pap tests:

- should provide or allow adequate time, resources, preceptorship and facilities to ensure that HCPs are adequately educated (both initially and on an ongoing basis) to provide quality Pap tests
- have procedures in place for follow-up of the cervical cancer screening test results
- encourage or participate in ongoing monitoring of cervical cancer screening test adequacy rates
- maintain a record of HCP cervical cancer screening competency training
- follow infection control and maintenance procedures regarding medical equipment utilized
- have policies in place which define the rules and responsibilities of those who require a delegation and function

Preceptor

A preceptor who provides cervical cancer screening theory and a practicum experience is required to:

- be a Medical Doctor, Nurse Practitioner, Licensed Nurse, Clinical Assistant, Physician Assistant, or Midwife in the province of Manitoba
- be skilled at screening for cervical cancer
- be able to demonstrate continuing competencies in cervical cancer screening test (with particular reference to cervical sampling technique)
- demonstrate good communication and counseling skills, practice person-centered care
- remain current in new developments in cervical screening and the cervical screening program
- have time to provide preceptor duties such as mentorship, supervision, review of assessment materials

Medicolegal Issues

The following is a list of professional and legal sources of information to support HCPs understanding of confidentiality, informed consent, privacy, documentation, negligence, liability, accountability and responsibility as it relates to health care services and cervical cancer screening in Manitoba:

- The Personal Health Information Act
- The College of Physicians and Surgeons of Manitoba
- The Midwifery Act
- The Manitoba Regulated Health Professionals Act
- The Registered Nurses Act
- The Registered Nurses Extended Practice Act
- The Medical Act
- The College of Registered Nurses of Manitoba
- The Canadian Medical Association

References

¹ Nursing Best Practice Guideline: Shaping the future of Nursing (2002). Client Centered Care. (p 10). Collected on February 3, 2017 from http://rnao.ca/sites/rnao-ca/files/Client_Centred_Care.pdf