

HPV TEST of CURE

Information for Primary Care Providers

What is HPV Test of Cure (HPV ToC)?

HPV ToC is a risk stratification tool for colposcopists. The purpose of this test is to determine which patients in colposcopy care will need ongoing follow-up in colposcopy and which can be safely returned back to primary care for cervical screening per Clinical Practice Guidelines (CPGs).

Screening recommendations per CPG can be found [here](#)¹.

What is the role of primary care providers in this new HPV ToC initiative?

As per HPV ToC algorithm, eligible patients in colposcopy with negative colposcopy evaluation and HPV ToC result will be discharged to primary care. Primary care providers will then be responsible for their subsequent follow-up and cervical screening needs. Patients with more questions may seek primary care provider assistance.

What are the benefits of HPV ToC?

- Improve patient experience.
- Fewer appointments required to complete the assessment and treatment cycle in colposcopy.
- An objective risk stratification tool to help determine right care by the right provider.

How is HPV ToC different from HPV Reflex?

The test is the same; it's called different names to identify where in the care pathway the test was conducted. Currently in Alberta, HPV test is used as a triage tool. HPV Reflex is used after an abnormal low-grade Pap test to determine referral to colposcopy while HPV ToC is used after colposcopy treatment to determine if further colposcopy treatment is required.

How will primary care providers be notified of patient discharge due to HPV ToC status?

A communication from colposcopists will be sent to referring providers notifying them that their patient has been discharged from colposcopy services.

Who is eligible for the HPV ToC?

Patients in colposcopy care who have received treatment for high-grade lesions.

Who can order the HPV ToC?

Only colposcopists can order the HPV ToC.

When can colposcopists start ordering the HPV ToC?

Starting on *September 15, 2022*, colposcopists can order the HPV ToC.

What happens if a primary care provider orders the HPV ToC?

Any requisition for HPV ToC submitted by other providers will not be processed by the labs. Please do not order this test unless you are a colposcopist.

What happens after HPV ToC?

- Colposcopy evaluation negative + HPV ToC negative = Discharge to primary care for continued cervical screening.
- Colposcopy evaluation negative + HPV ToC positive = Colposcopy care + HPV ToC in 6 months.
- Colposcopy evaluation positive = Treat as per colposcopy care guidelines.

Will patients receive HPV ToC result communication from the Alberta Cervical Cancer Screening Program (ACCSP)?

No. As this test is part of specialist follow-up care, communication will be from specialists to primary care providers.

Patient is asking about the HPV vaccine. What information is available?

Information on the HPV Vaccine can be found [here](#)²

Need more information about HPV ToC?

Contact Alberta Health Services Screening Programs at 1-866- 727-3926 or visit the Healthcare Providers page on www.screeningforlife.ca

¹ <https://actt.albertadoctors.org/CPGs/Pages/Cervical-Cancer-Screening.aspx>

² <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/publications/healthy-living/update-recommended-human-papillomavirus-vaccine-immunization-schedule.html>

Guidelines for the Follow-up of Previously Treated Cervical Intraepithelial Lesions (CIN 2, 3)

