

CANCER SCREENING FACT SHEET (3 PAGES)

ESTONIA – CERVIX – 2017

SCREENING POLICY (2017)

- Population-based screening implemented in 2006
- Current screening policy in force since 2006
- National target age range 30-59 years
- All resident women in the target age group who have health insurance can participate free of charge. The period for women to participate is from January 1 in the given year up to January 31 the following year.
- Non-insured women are also invited but they have to pay for the test
- Women with prior cervical cancer are excluded
- Eligible women with valid mailing address receive mailed information letters, but the whole target group can participate without the invitation and information is also available online in personal patient portal.
- The informational letter includes information about the screening procedure and contact information of all clinics where screening services are offered. The women have to proactively make an appointment.
- Interval between negative screens is 5 years
- The primary screening test is conventional cytology
- Specially trained midwives take the smear in clinics that participate in the programme (altogether 21 clinics all over Estonia in 2016)
- In the current screening programme, Papanicolaou staining and Bethesda classification are used
- Criteria for a follow-up screening test or for referral for diagnostic confirmation according to the Pap-smear results are the following: ASCUS -> HPV immediately or repeat Pap in 12 months; if HPV turns out to be negative, then normal screening policy, if positive, then treat like LSIL; ASCH - > colposcopy; LSIL -> take HPV, if negative, then repeat Pap and HPV in 12 mo, if positive, then colposcopy; HSIL -> immediate colposcopy; AGC -> colposcopy and curettage.

More information on the screening programme [in Estonian]: [Cervical Cancer Screening Guide](#)

More information on the recommendations diagnostic verification, treatment and follow-up [in Estonian, with flow-charts]: [Cervical Cancer Guide](#)

POPULATION, TESTS AND TEST COVERAGE (2016)

Population data are retrieved from Estonian Population Registry; these include woman's name, mailing address, and status (alive, dead, or emigrated from Estonia)

Individual level screening test data are retrieved from Estonian National Health Information System. The system includes both organised and opportunistic tests.

The Estonian Cancer Screening Registry¹ (established in 2015) collects data about the primary test, additional investigations (HPV, colposcopy, histology) and treatment offered by the clinics; this data is retrieved from Estonian National Health Information System which is a nationwide central digital database; the screening registry makes regular linkages with the Estonian cancer registry and Estonian Cause of Death Registry

Test coverage is calculated as the proportion of women in a specified age range on the last day of the index year with at least one registered test in a specified preceding period of time. Test coverage data in Nordscreen is only available for recent years (2015-2016) and only 1-year follow up times are currently available. Therefore, the 5-yearly test coverage data below is from EUROSTAT, which doesn't follow the exact same definition as Nordscreen test coverage.

Summary measures [age range]

Total population in the national target age range [30-59]	270 527
Total population in the common core age range [30-59]*	270 527
Total number of tests registered [30-59]	24 552
Total number of tests within the national target age range [30-59]	24 552
Total number of tests within the common core age range [30-59]*	24 552
Test coverage according to national screening policy [5-yearly; 30-59]	50,0% (2011)**
5-yearly test coverage within the common core age range [30-59]*	50,0% (2011)**

*The common core age range [30-59] is the minimum age group targeted in EU countries that have population-based screening policies in place.²

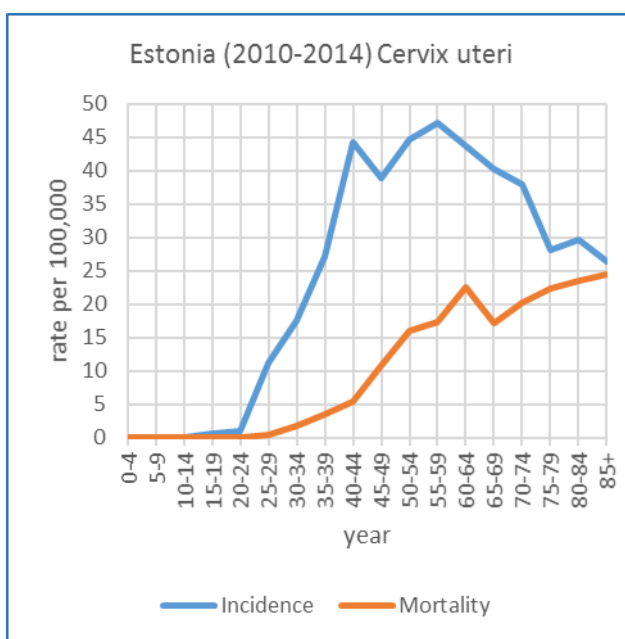
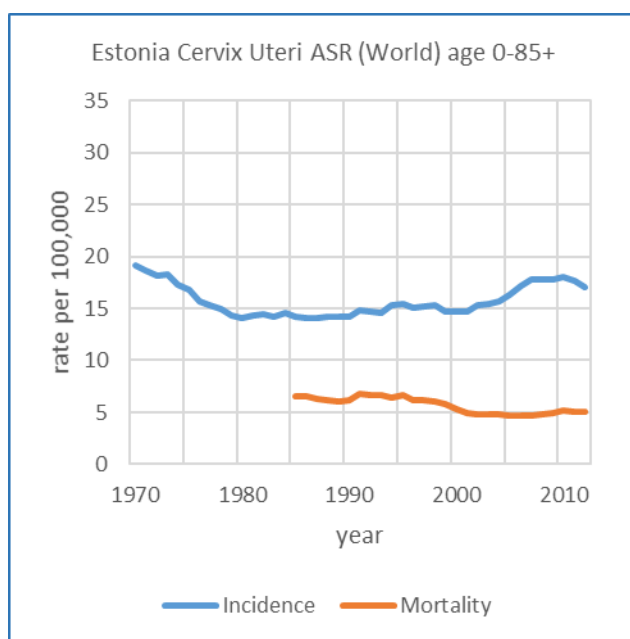
**Source: [EUROSTAT, Breast cancer and cervical cancer screenings](#).

¹ Estonian Cancer Screening Registry: <http://www.tai.ee/en/r-and-d/registers/estonian-cancer-screening-registry>

² Cancer Screening in the European Union (2017) Report on the implementation of the Council Recommendation on cancer screening. Available from https://ec.europa.eu/health/sites/health/files/major_chronic_diseases/docs/2017_cancerscreening_2ndreportimple mentation_en.pdf

CERVICAL CANCER BURDEN (2010-2014, FROM ESTONIAN CANCER REGISTRY³)

Number of cervical cancers per year	181
Number of cervical cancer deaths per year	70
Age-standardised (W) incidence rate	17,1 / 100 000 person-years
Age-standardised (W) mortality rate	5,1 / 100 000 person-years



³ Health Statistics and Health Research Database: http://pxweb.tai.ee/PXWeb2015/index_en.html