

Chapter 1: Introduction

Welcome to the CervixCheck, CancerCare Manitoba's Pap Test Learning Module for Health Care 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 CervixCheck Pap Test Learning Module can be found at:

Get  **CheckedManitoba.ca**

Target Audience and Purpose

The Pap Test 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 Pap test 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 Pap test 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.

On completion of the learning module theory and practicum, the learner will be able to:

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 Pap test.
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

Learning Objectives

responsibility as it relates to health care in Manitoba.

Competency Requirements

The HCP will first *partner with a preceptor* to oversee the activities outlined for Pap test competency. Pap test 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 video's (see Appendix 1)
 - 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

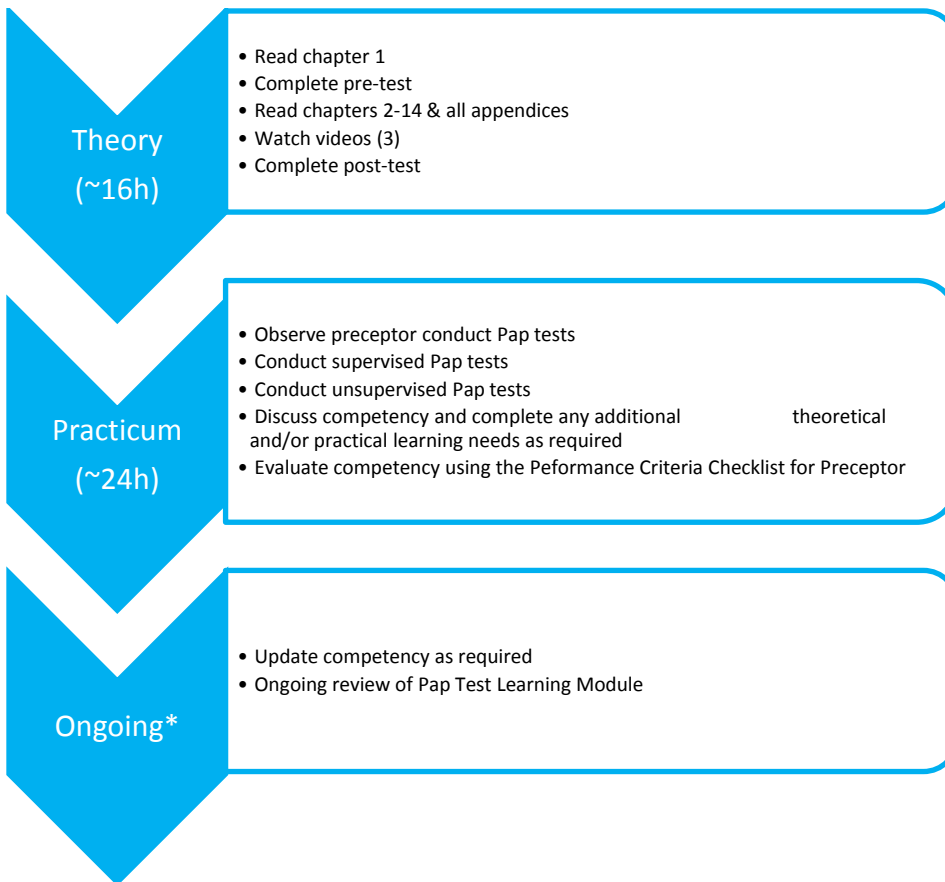
***Note:** The above is a suggested guideline for the HCPs practical experience. The number of Pap tests that the HCP completes during the practicum may range. Emphasis should be placed on quality of performance rather than quantity of Pap tests performed. The HCP should observe and demonstrate until 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 4).

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 Pap Test 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



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.

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.

To request a CervixCheck provider number please complete the form in Appendix 5 and submit to CervixCheck.

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