

FREE CERVICAL SCREENING



With Labour's Medicard, cervical screening will be free, and every New Zealander gets three free doctor's visits every year.

Cost should never be a barrier to care. Under Christopher Luxon, it's become harder and more expensive to see a doctor. He promised to fix the cost of living, but it's getting worse - and there's no plan to fix our health system.

It doesn't have to be this way.

Labour will build a health system that keeps people healthy, not just treating them when they're sick.

Affordable, reliable healthcare is the foundation on which New Zealanders build their lives. Just as every New Zealander wants the best healthcare for their family, a Labour Government wants the best healthcare for every New Zealander.

How it works

- ▶ Free cervical screening for those aged 25–69 from 1 October 2027.
- ▶ Eligibility automatically loaded onto the Medicard.
- ▶ Simply scan your Medicard at your local doctor or community screening events.
- ▶ Free screening is *in addition* to three free doctor's visits.

Every New Zealander will receive a Medicard, loaded with three free doctor's visits each year, that they can use at the General Practice they're enrolled in.

Why it matters

Cervical cancer is among the most preventable cancers - yet 85 percent of those diagnosed have never been screened or missed screenings.

The impact

Free cervical screening means more on-time screening, earlier diagnosis, lives saved, and less pressure on our hospitals. It also brings cervical screening in line with other nationwide free cancer screening programmes.

The cost

Cervical screening will be available for everyone who needs it, aged 25 to 69, starting from 1 October 2027. Screening will be funded from existing health baselines. The cost for the first full year will be \$21.6 million.

