



It could save your life

# Cancer survival rates set to reach the lowest in 15 years!

Over **3 million people missed routine cancer screening** appointments in England during the pandemic – a service which normally diagnoses around 400 cancers a week. The disruptions to cancer services during the pandemic have resulted in a backlog in cancer screening, cancer diagnoses and subsequent delays in cancer treatments.

## 9 reasons why you should get screened for cancer

- 1 **1 out of 2** Britons born after 1960 will get cancer during their lifetime.
- 2 **Around 50%** of people with cancer survive and the odds increase significantly if cancer is detected early.
- 3 **Cancer screening tests** help detect cancer before you have symptoms. Some cancers do not present with 'symptoms' until they are at an advanced stage such as bowel, lung and prostate cancers.
- 4 **Early detection** of cancer is key as treatments for early-stage cancers are often less severe (when confined to a localised area) and are often more effective.
- 5 If you have a cancer diagnosed early then you will often experience **fewer side effects** and have an easier time with the treatment, improving quality of life when compared to being diagnosed late.
- 6 **Age** - your risk of developing many different cancers increases as we age so **regular screening is important.**
- 7 **Weight** - being overweight can also increase your risk of developing certain cancers, so **screening can flag potential problems** and help you to make the necessary lifestyle changes to reduce your risk.
- 8 **Tobacco use** - using tobacco in any form **increases your risk** of some cancers.
- 9 **Family history** - having a history of cancer in your family doesn't mean you will develop cancer, but it may put you at **higher risk.**

## Why early cancer detection is so important!

### BOWEL CANCER

If detected in its earliest stages, there is around a 90% chance of it being cured. Many **bowel cancers** are potentially preventable in the UK, with regular screening and reducing lifestyle risks.

### LUNG CANCER

More men and women die of **lung cancer** than any other cancer. Survival rates are currently low because it is detected late.

### CERVICAL CANCER

Is a very treatable disease if detected in its earliest stages! At present 1 in 4 women, and 1 in 3 women aged 25-29, fail to attend for NHS **cervical screening.**

### BREAST CANCER

Of the 55,000 women diagnosed with **breast cancer** each year in the UK, 23% are preventable by risk reduction and breast screening.

### PROSTATE CANCER

More than 47,000 men are diagnosed with **prostate cancer** in the UK every year – that's around 130 every day. Cancer diagnoses fell significantly during the pandemic due to missed screening appointments and fewer people going to the doctor.

### SKIN CANCER

The earlier **skin cancer** is detected, the better the outcome. This is particularly true for a malignant mole or melanoma.