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2. Population screening: evidence and guidance (<https://www.gov.uk/topic/population-screening-programmes/population-screening-evidence-guidance>)

Guidance

NHS population screening: education and training

Resources to support screening professionals in their initial training and continuing professional development (CPD).

From:

Public Health England (<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/public-health-england>)

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Use this guide to:

- download tools to help explain screening
- access e-learning
- access programme specific training
- sign up for screening training

e-Learning

Most e-learning for the NHS screening programmes is available on the e-Learning for Healthcare (e-LfH) website. This includes the Public Health England (PHE) introduction to population screening (https://portal.e-lfh.org.uk/Catalogue/Index?HierarchyId=0_43382&programmId=43382) module, which explains what screening is and how screening programmes are implemented in the NHS.

We also have an All our Health module on population screening (https://portal.e-lfh.org.uk/Catalogue/Index?HierarchyId=0_41737_42670&programmeld=41737), which is ideal for health and care practitioners who do not work directly in screening to find out more about the NHS screening programmes and what they can do to support them.

Neither of these modules require registration.

Read about the screening courses available (<http://www.e-lfh.org.uk/programmes/nhs-screening-programmes/>) and sign up for e-LfH (<http://portal.e-lfh.org.uk/Register>)

Screening programme resources

Read further training information on GOV.UK about the:

- abdominal aortic aneurysm (AAA) programme (<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/abdominal-aortic-aneurysm-screening-education-and-training>)
- bowel cancer screening (BCSP) programme (<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/bowel-cancer-screening-education-and-training>)
- breast screening (BSP) programme (<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/breast-screening-education-and-training>)
- cervical screening (CSP) programme (<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/cervical-screening-education-and-training>)
- diabetic eye screening (DES) programme (<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/diabetic-eye-screening-education-and-training>)
- fetal anomaly screening programme (FASP) (<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/fetal-anomaly-screening-education-and-training>)
- infectious diseases in pregnancy screening (IDPS) programme (<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/infectious-diseases-in-pregnancy-screening-education-and-training>)
- newborn and infant physical examination (NIPE) screening programme (<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/newborn-and-infant-physical-examination-screening-education-and-training>)
- newborn blood spot (NBS) screening programme (<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/newborn-blood-spot-screening-education-and-training>)
- newborn hearing screening programme (NHSP) (<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/newborn-hearing-screening-programme-nhsp-operational-guidance>)
- sickle cell and thalassaemia (SCT) screening programme (<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/sickle-cell-and-thalassaemia-screening-education-and-training>)

Antenatal and newborn screening timeline

The antenatal and newborn timeline shows optimum times for NHS antenatal and newborn screening tests to take place.

Antenatal and newborn screening timeline

(https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/768805/ANNB_Timeline_v8.4.pdf)

PDF, 974KB, 1 page

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Watch an animated antenatal and newborn screening timeline
(<https://vimeopro.com/phescreening/nhs-screening-timeline>)

Warwick health screening module

The Warwick Medical School health screening module looks at:

- what screening is
- the different elements that make up a screening programme
- the work of PHE Screening
- how to understand and interpret screening tests
- cost-effectiveness in screening
- ethics
- quality
- how screening programmes can be effectively monitored and improved

The course is available as a postgraduate award or part of the masters in public health programme.

Applicants must apply direct to the University of Warwick

(https://warwick.ac.uk/fac/sci/med/study/cpd/module_index/mh933) for a place. More general information about the module is available on the University of Warwick website, including dates for when the next course is running and dates to apply.

Warwick health screening one-day workshop

Warwick University also runs a one-day health screening workshop where delegates explore:

- how we decide to introduce a new screening programme
- the ethics and economics of screening
- the quality assurance of programmes

This workshop is suitable for any staff involved in providing NHS screening programmes. This includes:

- screening technicians
- commissioners
- quality assurance and fail-safe staff

- GPs
- midwives
- public health managers
- practice managers

Screening masterclass

The screening masterclasses are for staff working in public health who are responsible for commissioning, managing or delivering national screening programmes for their local populations.

The masterclasses are also suitable for screening leads within NHS provider Trusts.

Prof Anne Mackie, [PHE](#) Director of Screening, will often attend for part of the day to answer questions from attendees.

Course content

The day sessions include information on:

- what screening is (and is not)
- defining a high-quality screening service
- public health skills - and tips for commissioning high-quality screening programmes
- how to identify common problems, and share experiences
- the role and remit of the UK National Screening Committee
- an overview of policy and practice of current NHS screening programmes

The sessions are interactive and use a variety of teaching methods, including case studies and practical exercises.

The case studies include:

- commissioning new services
- assessing appropriateness and quality of services
- accountability for screening services
- managing clinicians and patient expectations

For more information, see the example agenda.

Screening masterclass example agenda

(https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/951482/Screening_Masterclass__virtual__Example_outline_of_the_day.pdf)

[PDF](#), 90.3KB, 1 page

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Places are limited. A £48 fee is usually charged to cover the venue and catering, however, while the masterclasses are being held virtually they are currently free of charge.

Information about latest screening masterclass dates and how to register (<https://phescreening.blog.gov.uk/screening-masterclasses/>) is available online.

Screening e-learning module

The module on screening (<https://www.healthknowledge.org.uk/interactive-learning/screening>) covers the evaluation and delivery of screening. It is aimed at both new and experienced practitioners.

The module is written by Dr Angela Raffle (<https://www.healthknowledge.org.uk/about-us/the-authors/angela-raffle>). It contains useful information and evidence relating to screening, as well as examples of how this can be applied as part of daily practice.

Neonatal and paediatric intensive care units: learning resource

Download the NICU and PICU resource (<https://drive.google.com/open?id=0B8eopFA9myQebG90bi01SXFTSEE>) if you work in a:

- neonatal intensive care unit (NICU)
- paediatric intensive care unit (PICU)

To support you in ensuring the infants and babies in your care are offered screening in a timely manner, use this self-directed tool to:

- get an overview of screening within the NICU and PICU environment
- work through scenarios and examples

When you've used the resource, make sure to reflect on your learning and use it as evidence of continuing professional development.

Antenatal and newborn screening resource

Download the antenatal and newborn screening resource (https://drive.google.com/open?id=1UzDM9yFqCvYtTcbm0v_jvjJRhuFWaCH2)

This interactive presentation replaces the pocket-sized resource cards that P.H.E. used to provide to midwives. It includes important information on all the antenatal and newborn screening programmes, with illustrations and links to films, e-learning and other resources.

Use the resource to:

- discuss screening with women and their families
- facilitate informed choices

Student midwife pack

This resource was previously distributed in hard copy to all new student midwives at the start of each academic year. We have now made the information electronic in line with 'digital first' and to enable content to be up-to-date at all times. It contains links to education and training resources, an explanation of recessive inheritance and a copy of the interactive resource information for midwives to use with women to support informed choice.

Download the pack (<https://drive.google.com/open?id=1YIzo5KHn7m3AZZRzs3o58CLXMFSbY-1>)

Recommended reading

Sense about Science has published a useful guide called Making Sense of Screening (<http://senseaboutscience.org/activities/making-sense-of-screening/>). This helps people to weigh up the benefits and harms of health-screening programmes. Prof Anne Mackie, P.H.E. Director of Screening, was one of the contributors to the guide.

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Last updated 5 July 2021 + show all updates

1. 5 July 2021
Updated the section relating to the Warwick health screening module.
2. 4 February 2021
Added link to the new All our Health module on population screening.
3. 20 January 2021
Updated information about the Warwick health screening module funding.
4. 12 January 2021
Updated information on the screening masterclasses.
5. 17 November 2020
Link to online form added for people to apply for the 2021 Warwick health screening module.
6. 9 July 2020
Updated the section about the Warwick health screening module with 2021 date.
7. 17 July 2019
Replaced NHS screening timeline with new publication and updated information on Warwick health screening course places because applications for funding for 2019 have now closed.
8. 20 June 2019
Added information on screening masterclass and e-learning module.
9. 12 June 2019
Added deadline date for applying for a bursary for Warwick module funding.

10. 22 May 2019

Added details of 'Warwick health screening module' timetable.

11. 4 January 2019

Added link to 'Making Sense of Screening' guide on the Sense about Science charity website.

12. 3 December 2018

Added information on 'antenatal and newborn screening resource'.

13. 6 June 2018

Closing date added for applications for funded places on Warwick screening module.

14. 23 May 2018

Added links for Warwick health screening module funding application, course details and timetable.

15. 27 March 2018

Added online masterclass resource information.

16. 25 January 2018

Added information about the student midwife pack.

17. 8 December 2017

First published.

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Related content

- [Bowel cancer screening: education and training \(https://www.gov.uk/guidance/bowel-cancer-screening-education-and-training\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/bowel-cancer-screening-education-and-training)
- [Infectious diseases in pregnancy screening: education and training \(https://www.gov.uk/guidance/infectious-diseases-in-pregnancy-screening-education-and-training\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/infectious-diseases-in-pregnancy-screening-education-and-training)
- [Sickle cell and thalassaemia screening: education and training \(https://www.gov.uk/guidance/sickle-cell-and-thalassaemia-screening-education-and-training\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/sickle-cell-and-thalassaemia-screening-education-and-training)
- [Bowel cancer screening: specialist screening practitioner \(https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/bowel-cancer-screening-specialist-screening-practitioner\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/bowel-cancer-screening-specialist-screening-practitioner)
- [Abdominal aortic aneurysm screening: education and training \(https://www.gov.uk/guidance/abdominal-aortic-aneurysm-screening-education-and-training\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/abdominal-aortic-aneurysm-screening-education-and-training)

Brexit

[Check what you need to do \(https://www.gov.uk/brexit\)](https://www.gov.uk/brexit)

Explore the topic

- [Population screening: evidence and guidance \(https://www.gov.uk/topic/population-screening-programmes/population-screening-evidence-guidance\)](https://www.gov.uk/topic/population-screening-programmes/population-screening-evidence-guidance)

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