

**Additional File 3 Primary themes, subthemes and illustrative quotes for HPV infection and HPV testing.**

Primary themes	Subthemes	Sample quotes
<b>HPV Infection</b>		
Knowledge	Lack of information	DE1 All I can think of about is GP's [general practitioners] and the doctors and everybody in general in the medical profession actually don't tell you anything. DE1 We're just not being told like the ...medical secret about everything
	Appropriate information	MY2 You don't want to know the information until it hits your own door.
	Link to cervical cancer	PB3 Maybe it's the whole I mean I don't know how you see this is but maybe if the whole Sexually Transmitted Disease thing was removed slightly from the whole concept of cervical cancer. You know it's a cancer, it can kill you, it can kill women and younger women are dying of cervical cancer. PB3 I think the link between maybe HPV and cervical cancer has to be explained better as well because it looks like they are two separate things and they are not.
Emotional response	Shock	LC1 I think to even describe it on the internet as a, as a, did I read there it's a sort of a sexual disease, I certainly would have never seen it as sexual disease, I would have seen it alright it had a virus but I don't see myself as having a disease, I got kind of a shock when I saw that because I would be thinking of sexual diseases like.
	Anger	LC3 I think some women would get very angry if they thought well I've only been with him, you know and he's given this to me now, you know I think that is something that might come up for some people.
Societal influences	Stigma	PB5 I mean you could have someone who's never had sex with anybody but her first partner and she might still get the virus I don't think it should be labelled as a Sexually Transmitted Disease it may be just a virus that happens to be transferable from one body to another body or contact with one body with another body but it doesn't mean it is something that should be regarded the same as Syphilis or Gonorrhoea or any of those things, I wouldn't like it to have, to be thought of in the same way.
	Defer responsibility to trusted sources	BM04 For things like this I would probably look up on the internet in work or whatever. But for my sister or my mam [mother] like...they would just go to the doctor and ask the GP[general practitioner].

HPV Testing		
Knowledge	Preference for HPV testing in addition to smear testing	<p>PB1 I think it should be part of the smear test I think I should have been tested for this if it's anything that can occur because I'd rather have the information, I'd rather, even if it is they're saying well this is present in the whole population and it's probably going to clear up but we're going to monitor it and this is what you have and you're good to go, oh you're fine yea, I'd rather know.</p>
	Preference for smear tests	<p>NZ8 I mean if the majority of adults are likely to have had it at some time in their lives.....And quite happy living in ignorance but as long as your smears are normal, that's all that would bother me.</p>
	Testing the same thing	<p>NZ2 I think I wouldn't even want HPV testing actually. I think I'd just go for the smears.</p> <p>LC6 Well yea because it's the same, it's the same process that, like, a smear test, so I think if you just go for a smear test [that would be best].</p>
Logistics	Side-by –side testing	<p>T05 Well if it's going to let you know whether you have a high risk or a low risk of cervical cancer in the future. I think it definitely should be done side by side with the screening. I mean just as you are there you should have two tests as the one.</p>
	Deferred responsibility	<p>PB6 Are there other countries, are we lagging behind other countries who test for this automatically or are leading the field?</p> <p>PB3 I don't see the point to it [HPV testing] to be honest, I mean maybe as a test women like number two who have mild abnormalities in the [smear test], I think doctors as well, or clinicians have to decide you know what is clinically right, what does, what are international guidelines on this you know.</p>
Psychological effect	Fear	<p>PB3 I think it would be kind of a, maybe a waste of resources and scary for everybody to be tested for HPV if we all have it anyway and we can't do anything about it.</p>
	Lack of treatment	<p>FA1 Just the fear of something, just to see that it will show maybe something bad...like.</p> <p>PB7 Well yea it [diagnosis as HPV positive] leaves you in a very powerless</p>

