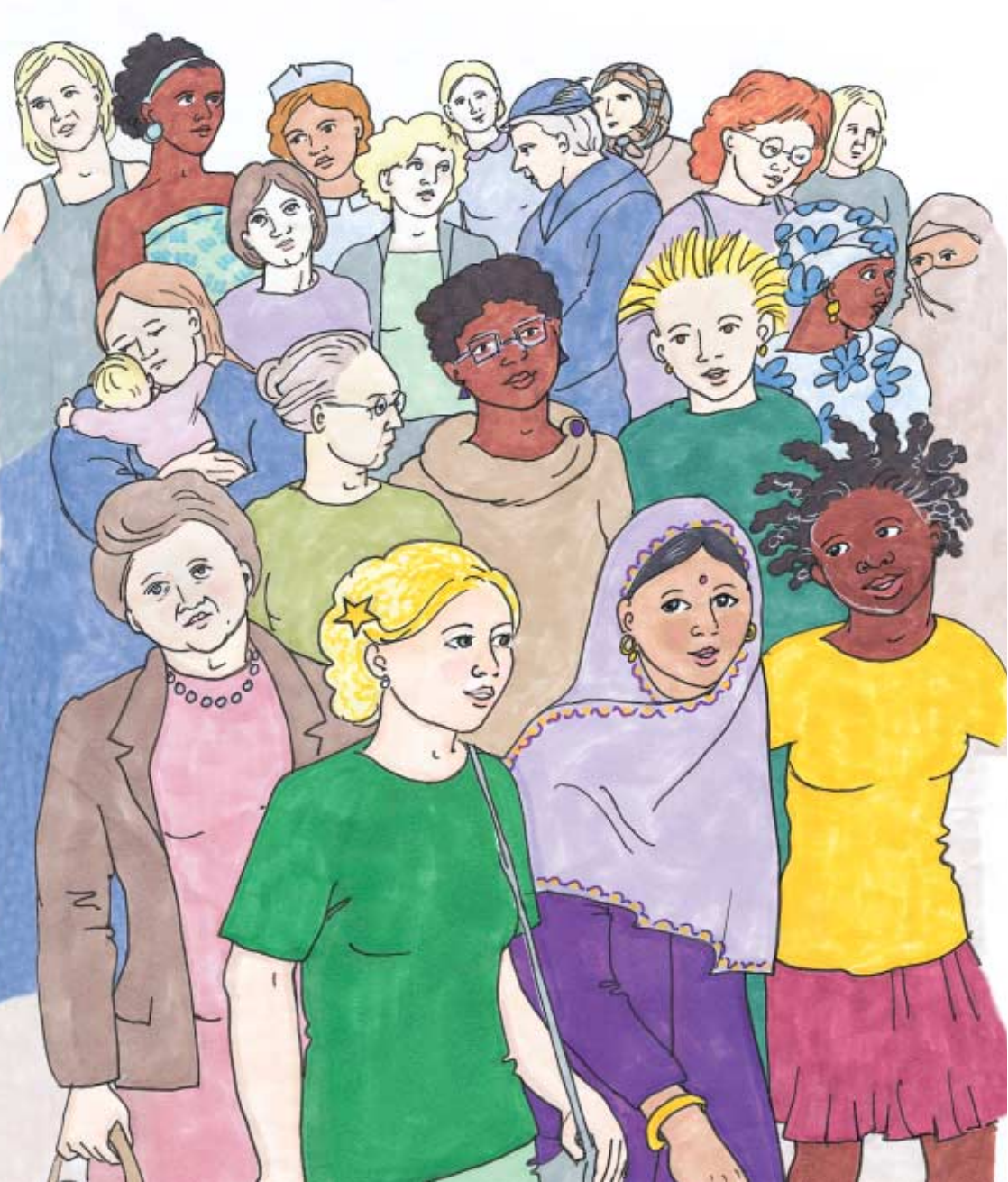


Having a smear test





All women need to keep healthy down below.



All women over 20 are invited to come for a smear test. Having a smear test is a way of looking for changes down below. Some of these changes may become cancer. This sort of cancer is called cervical cancer. It can be prevented if the changes are found early enough.



The doctor or nurse will talk to you to help you decide if you need to have the smear test.

There is a picture book which explains more about the smear test. The doctor or nurse may have a copy for you to look at.



You can decide if you want to have the smear test.
You can come back another day if you are not sure.



A doctor or nurse will take the smear.
You can ask for a woman doctor or nurse to do it.
The smear is sent away to be looked at carefully.



You will be sent a letter about the results of your smear test. If everything is OK with the smear you don't need to have another test for at least three years.



You can ask someone to tell you more about having a smear test.

A picture book called **Keeping Healthy Down Below** gives more information about having a smear test. A copy can be ordered from:

Book Sales, Royal College of Psychiatrists, 17 Belgrave Square, London SW1X 8PG. Telephone: 020 7235 2351, extension 146. Price £10.00 including p&p.