

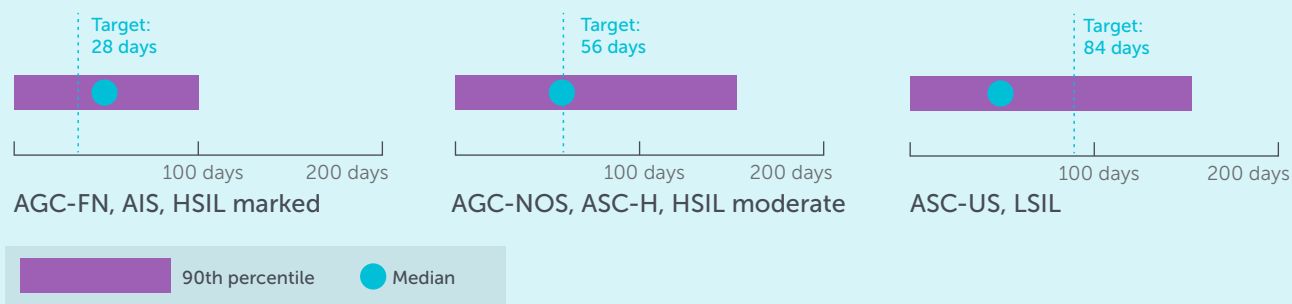
## Facilitated Referral Process for Colposcopy

The BC Cancer Cervix Screening Program is implementing a facilitated referral process for cervix screening participants who have cytology results recommending colposcopy follow-up.

### 1 Facilitated Referral Process

Cervix Screening Program data indicates that follow-up wait time standards are not being met for any of the three benchmarks below and approximately 15% of patients recommended for colposcopy are not having follow-up.

#### Follow-up Wait Times:



The facilitated referral process will support program wait time standards for cytology follow-up and adherence to follow-up, by ensuring patients are referred for colposcopy quickly. Most colposcopy clinics have indicated that they have capacity to see patients within the wait time benchmarks if referrals are sent in a timely manner.

## Reduced Wait Times

The new process will link recommendations to follow-up procedures in a timely fashion:

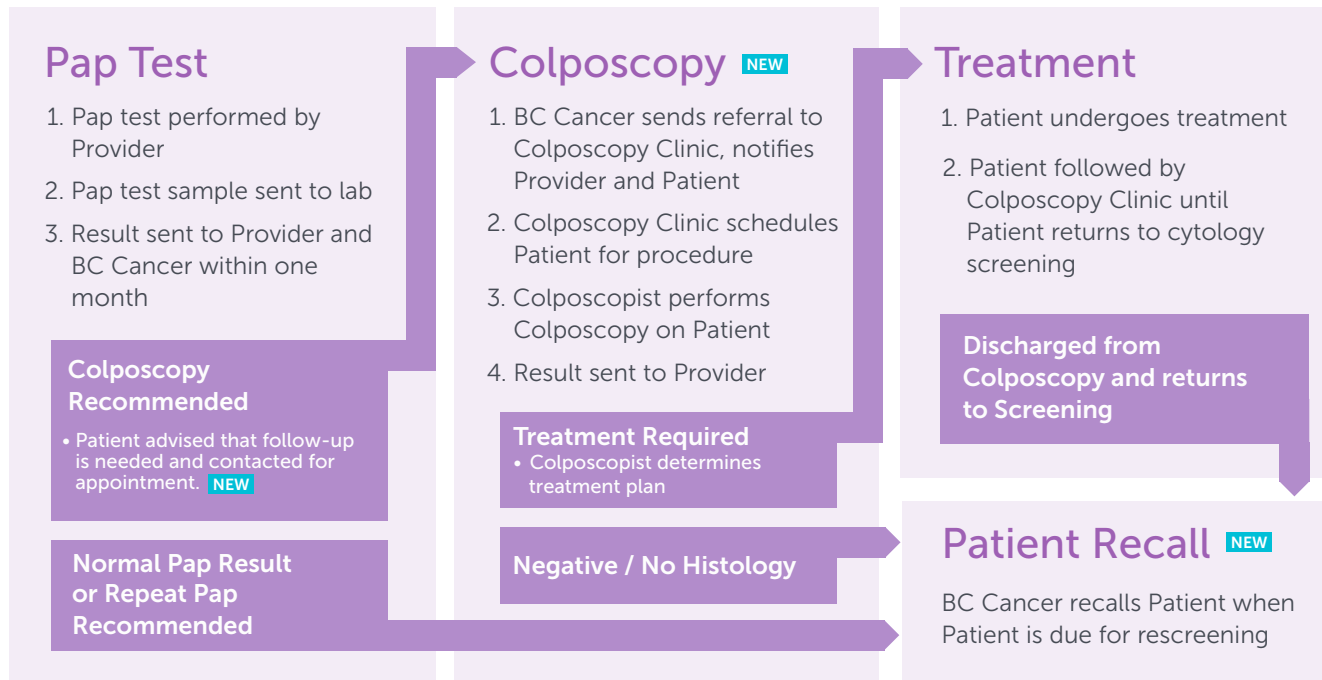
On the same or next business day after the Cervix Screening Program receives a cervix screening result that recommends colposcopy follow-up, a referral will be sent to a colposcopy clinic with certified colposcopists\* linked to the patient's postal code.

The patient's primary care provider on record will be notified of the referral made on their behalf.

A result letter will be sent to the patient to advise them that follow-up is needed and to notify them which clinic they have been referred to.

Colposcopy clinic staff will arrange an appointment for the patient.

\*Certified colposcopists have completed the BC Colposcopy Training Program and participate in regular quality assurance activities.



Under the facilitated referral process, BC Cancer Cervix Screening Program **WILL** refer for colposcopy follow-up directly with a colposcopy clinic for patients who are recommended for colposcopy. Patients will receive an abnormal result letter from BC Cancer advising that follow-up is needed and providers will be notified of the referral made on their behalf. BC Cancer will recall patients directly with mailed reminder letters when they are due for re-screening.



Women with symptoms including post coital bleeding, persistent intermenstrual bleeding and/or a persistent vaginal discharge that cannot be explained by benign causes such as infection should have a speculum examination by someone with experience in cervical disease. Referral to a colposcopist is appropriate and may be expedited if the clinical suspicion is high. A screening test is not required for referral.

If any suspicious abnormality is noticed during speculum examination, please refer for colposcopic evaluation. Do not wait for the cervix screening result and refer even if the screening result is reported as normal.

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