

Dear Patient,

You have been invited for a liver health check.

Why are we offering liver screening?

Many people are at risk of liver damage (cirrhosis). This is known to have the potential to lead to liver cancer.

Finding liver damage early means that it can be treated, and people can therefore be prevented from developing this type of cancer. Also, early cancers which may be 'silent', with no symptoms, can be detected and hopefully, cured.

Because of this potential for live-saving treatment, a programme for checking patients for liver damage has been started in your local area.

Why are you invited?

You have been offered liver screening as you may be at risk of liver damage. Risk factors for liver damage can be infections (such as hepatitis), excess alcohol intake and type 2 diabetes.

What happens next?

The first step in this process is to have a routine blood test which will help to identify whether there has been any liver damage.

Dependent on these results, one of two outcomes are possible as follows:

- If your tests results are **normal**, you will receive further lifestyle modification information and no further action will be required.
- If your test results **suggest liver damage** then you will be invited for a fibroscan of your liver.

What is a fibroscan?

This is a safe and non-invasive test similar to an ultrasound scan of your tummy area. It takes 10-20 minutes and gives an instant result.

- If this scan is normal, you will be offered lifestyle advice.
- If this scan does confirm significant liver damage (cirrhosis) or a potential early cancer, then you will be contacted as appropriate for further investigations.

If you have any questions about the liver surveillance programme or unable to book an appointment, please contact – NWL GP Federation – 01530 831645 (Option 2)

Thank you – NWL GP Federation Team