

Do I need to have a clinical background?

No, you do not need to have a clinical background. You will be an 'expert by experience'.

How do I express interest in joining the Patient and Public Partnership network?

You can email ppplead@screeningservice.ie and we will send you further information and a PPP network application form.

Can a family member or friend help me fill in the Patient and Public Partnership application form?

Yes, feel free to ask a family member or friend to help you as long as the answers are your own.

Who do I contact if I have questions about the Patient and Public Partnership Network?

Please contact:

Email: ppplead@screeningservice.ie

What some of our current Patient and Public Partnership Representatives say:

"When I agreed to be a patient rep I was very concerned that I was simply there to tick a box. It has been a pleasure to discover that this hasn't been the case, and in fact patient involvement is now being viewed by many in the service as vital."

Grace, PPP Representative

"I wanted to try to ensure that the patient is kept at the centre of everything. It's very important that when a patient, or indeed any member of the public, is reading something from HSE or HIQA on general health, that they can understand what is being said/communicated. It's also very important that they feel it's relevant to them."

Keith, PPP Representative

"If you have the time and the interest, then just go for it. Listening to everything going on helped give me confidence and I personally gained from being a PPP representative."

Breda, PPP Representative



Patient and Public Partnership

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)



An tSeirbhís Náisiúnta Scaghástála
National Screening Service

What is the National Screening Service?

The National Screening Service (NSS) delivers four national population-based screening programmes, for cervical, breast and bowel cancer, and for detecting diabetic retinopathy which is a complication of Type 1 and Type 2 diabetes that affects the small blood vessels at the back of the eye. These programmes aim to help prevent, reduce the risk and assist the recognition of disease in Ireland.



What is the NSS Patient and Public Partnership?

In 2019, we launched our first Patient and Public Partnership (PPP) Strategy in response to the Scoping Inquiry into the CervicalCheck Screening Programme by Dr Gabriel Scally. The PPP strategy set out the plan to strengthen patient and public partnership and to ensure services meet the needs of users and are delivered through the HSE values: care, compassion, trust, and learning.

What is the Patient and Public Partnership Mission?

HSE vision

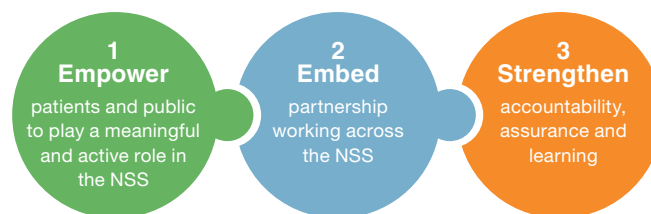
A healthier Ireland with a high quality health service valued by all

Patient and Public Partnership mission

To improve health outcomes through inclusive, high-quality, person-centred screening services, where the voices of participants are included in decision-making

Why is Patient and Public Partnership important in the National Screening Service?

PPP work aims to:



We acknowledge that working with patients and the public brings a wider perspective that guides the design, delivery, and evaluation of screening services to better meet the needs of the people using them. We are committed to partnership working as it is critical to delivering person-centred care.

Who is being invited to join the Patient and Public Partnership Network?

The PPP Network is looking for a diverse and inclusive panel that represents the people living in Ireland.

What does joining the Patient and Public Partnership Network involve?

There are different levels of involvement such as:

- Participating in the design, delivery and evaluation of NSS Services
- Supporting the NSS as we seek to put patients and the public at the heart of decision making
- Sharing your views and experience and participating in NSS discussions and project work virtually or face-to-face

Do I need to have any specific skills or experience?

- Some experience of screening services either as a patient, carer, relative or member of the public is desirable
- Have an interest or knowledge of at least one of the four National Screening Programmes: BreastCheck, CervicalCheck, BowelScreen and Diabetic RetinaScreen
- Can provide critical and constructive feedback
- Have an interest in communication
- Have confidence to voice their own opinions clearly and participate in group discussion
- Have the ability to listen and respect differing opinions
- Have an awareness of equality and diversity
- Are recruited as individuals who do not represent any organisation or group
- Bring a positive attitude