*Most cases of cervical cancer are caused by the virus called HPV. HPV is a very common sexually transmitted infection and about 80% of all sexually active women have had HPV in their lifetime. In some cases the infection turns chronic and can develop into cervical cancer.*

*People with an impaired immune system are at increased risk of developing cervical cancer. One reason for an impaired immune system may be an underlying HIV infection. An unknown HIV infection will have a significant influence on the treatment of cervical cancer.*

*It is important to emphasize that the vast majority of people with cervical cancer do NOT have HIV.*

*A routine HIV test of all patients will help us to identify the patients with HIV and provide the necessary treatment and care in time. Furthermore, it will help us to gain better insight into whether there is a correlation between the two conditions.*

*HIV (the Human Immunodeficiency Virus) is a virus that affects the immune system and, if not treated, will lead to AIDS. Today it is possible to live a good life as HIV infected with the right treatment. Early detection of the HIV infection is essential to successful and timely treatment.*

*[Please insert local contact details for the department]*

As a patient at the gynecology department you will be offered an HIV test. A blood test will be drawn together with your routine blood tests.

You will be asked to sign a written consent to have the HIV test done.

If you choose not to accept the offer it will not affect the care and treatment you receive at the department.
Anyone who accepts an HIV test will receive the test result. The result is confidential and known only to you and your treating physician/ nurse.
You are always welcome to ask questions.

>> Please insert department's local procedures for HIV testing and results <<

If the result is positive, you will be referred to the infectious diseases ward, where you will receive treatment and care for HIV.

Thank you for taking the time to read this information.