

Gynaecological Cancer Awareness Month

September



Education, engagement and inclusion for employees.

Gynaecological Cancer Awareness Month in September 2026 is a dedicated awareness campaign aimed at educating people about gynaecological cancer, its signs and symptoms, and the importance of contacting a GP with any concerns. 60 women are diagnosed with gynaecological cancer every day in the UK and this month helps remind employees to prioritise their health.



Why promote Gynaecological Cancer Awareness Month in your workplace?

- Gynaecological cancer includes womb, ovarian, cervical, vulval and vaginal cancers. More than 22,000 people are diagnosed each year in the UK.
- Gynaecological cancers differ in how common they are and how preventable they are. This month is a chance to raise awareness of all the different types.
- Symptoms of different gynaecological cancers can be similar. Awareness helps women to know what to look out for and when to visit a GP.
- Cervical screening is known to prevent 70–80% of cervical cancer cases. Employees can be encouraged to get up to date on screening.
- Offering risk awareness education can make a real difference to employees, as well as to the significant costs associated with cancer

65%

Of surveyed employees agreed that cancer prevention and early detection education is important in the workplace.

55%

Agreed that employers have an actual responsibility to support cancer prevention and early detection education.

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Given the significant number of people of working age who are affected by cancer, and the devastating impact the illness can have on them and their loved ones, it is vital for employers to appropriately support their staff.

Ian Talbot, CEO, Healix Health Services

Five easy ways to promote the campaign



01

Share the employee brochure provided in the Perci Health cancer awareness campaign hub.

02

Display the provided posters in areas of high footfall around the workplace, such as breakout areas, kitchens and bathrooms.

03

Share the ready-to-go social media posts on your chosen channels, offering reliable stats about gynaecological cancer.

04

Post a short awareness message on Slack, Teams or the company intranet, explaining the importance of the campaign.

05

Encourage employees to return screening tests if they have been sent one.

How to have sensitive conversations during a cancer awareness campaign

Feeling uncomfortable about having conversations about cancer and screening is a significant barrier to running an engaging cancer awareness campaign. Here's how managers can approach them.

- ✓ **DO** Use inclusive language. For example, at Perci, we use, 'Women and people with gynae organs' when we talk about who can get gynaecological cancer.
- ✓ **DO** Signpost employees to reputable information (like the Perci campaign awareness assets) and sources of advice (like Macmillan, NHS, their GP or Perci cancer nurse specialists).
- ✓ **DO** Plan how to respond if an employee raises concerns, before you actually need to.

- ✗ **DON'T** Ask employees for personal information about risk, family history, or whether they've experienced the signs and symptoms of gynaecological cancer.
- ✗ **DON'T** Offer medical advice yourself or share personal stories about test experiences or cancer.

Why should employers support gynaecological cancer awareness?

Women and people with gynae organs face significant barriers to the knowledge and support that could potentially save their lives.

- ➔ **Only 15% of women with stage 4 ovarian cancer will survive 5 years**
However, if it is caught early, ovarian cancer has a 95% survival rate.
- ➔ **There is no routine NHS screening for gynaecological cancers**
While the cervical screening programme is highly effective at detecting HPV, there are no national screening programmes for the other types of gynaecological cancer
- ➔ **The signs and symptoms of gynaecological cancer can be overlooked**
Common symptoms of gynaecological cancers include abnormal vaginal bleeding, persistent pelvic or abdominal pain, unusual vaginal discharge, persistent bloating, and changes in bowel or bladder habits.

It's important to understand the signs and symptoms of gynaecological cancers so that individuals can investigate their personal risk, and contact a GP if they're concerned. It's therefore vital that employers engage with campaigns of this kind and provide free, reliable advice, as well as offering time off to attend GP and testing appointments.

Trusted gynaecological cancer awareness month resources:

[Eveappeal.org.uk](https://eveappeal.org.uk) | macmillan.org.uk | cancerresearch.uk