

WOULD YOU KNOW IF YOU HAD CERVICAL CANCER?

Cervical cancer in young women is rare, but knowing the signs and taking the right action can be the difference between life and death.

THE FOUR* **RED FLAG** SYMPTOMS
OF CERVICAL CANCER ARE:

- Changes in your menstrual cycle
- Bleeding between periods
- Bleeding after sex
- Unusual vaginal discharge

*as stated by National Institute for Health and Clinical
Excellence (Referral Guideline CG27)

You know your body better than anyone, so don't be afraid or embarrassed to seek medical advice if you feel things aren't right.

If you are worried speak to your GP or visit your local sexual health clinic for free confidential advice.

If you are under 25 and you feel you're not being listened to, don't stop trying to tell people, speak to someone else and keep talking to people until they listen to you. It's important! Take this leaflet with you.

www.mercedescurnowfoundation.com



Scan to visit the
Mercedes Curnow
Facebook page.

Mercedes Curnow
Foundation



For the early detection of Cervical Cancer

THE MERCEDES CURNOW CAMPAIGN WAS STARTED IN 2011 FOLLOWING THE DEATH OF MERCEDES TO CERVICAL CANCER.

In England Cervical Screening (which helps to identify abnormal cells and pre-cancerous cells on the cervix) is not available to women under the age of 25.

Mercedes was 23 when she died following a late diagnosis of cervical cancer because she was refused a smear test due to her age when she started showing the red flag symptoms.

Mercedes talked about setting up a Foundation to help other young women/girls under 25 to seek medical attention at the earliest possible signs, and where a G.P. practice will not take notice of symptoms, then her goal was to provide help, support, advice and funding for private cervical smear tests for women/girls under 25 – her mother, Sandra, continues to strive for Mercedes goals.

Sandra says: "Mercedes knew there was something seriously wrong with her but her requests for a smear test were refused because she was told she was too young. If her symptoms had been taken seriously and investigated she would still be alive today"

You can find out more about Mercedes and her campaign to lower the age of cervical smear screening from 25 to 20 in the UK at her Facebook page.



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