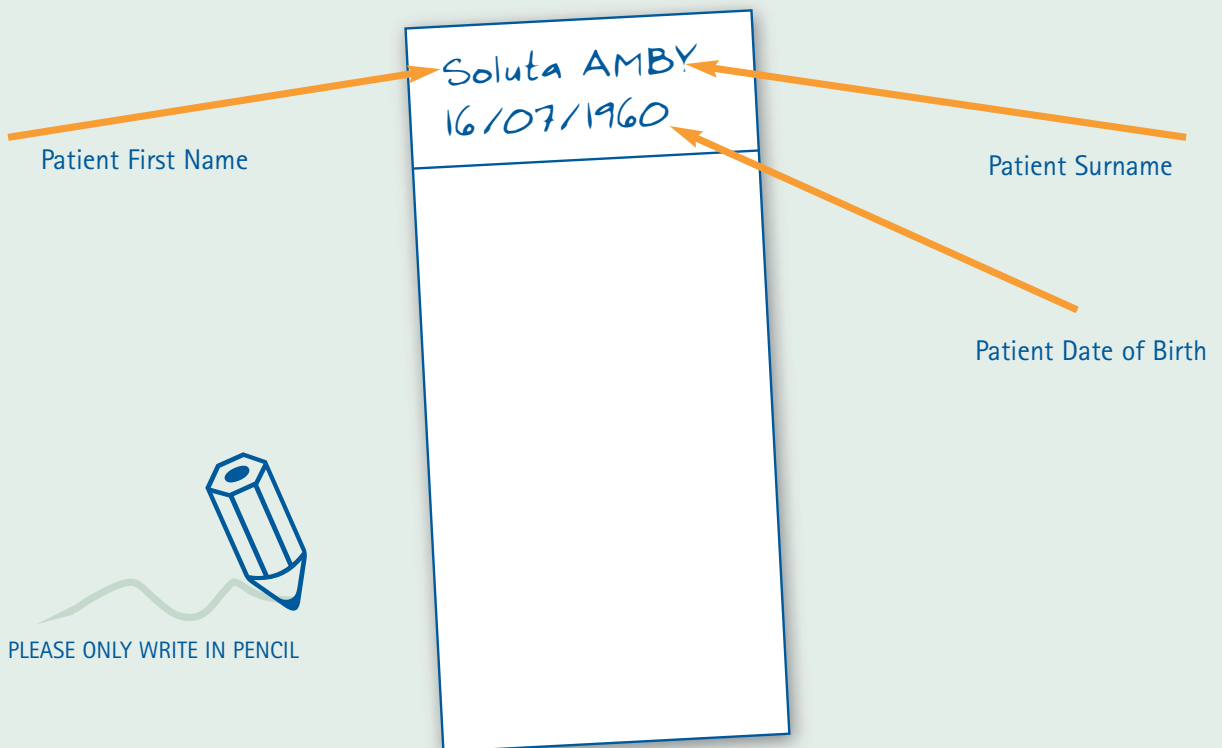




To enable your patient's smear to be reported without delay please ensure the following patient identifiers are written in pencil on the slide:



The National Pathology Accreditation Advisory Council (NPAAC) requirements for gynaecological cytology state that *"the smear submitted for gynaecological cytology must be permanently marked in such a way as to ensure an unambiguous identification with the request form. It is recommended that include as a minimum, patient surname and given name."*





National Policy on Screening for the Prevention of Cervical Cancer

Routine screening with Pap smears should be carried out every two years for women who have no symptoms or history suggestive of cervical pathology.

Commencement of Pap smears

All women who have ever been sexually active should commence having Pap smears between the ages of 18 to 20 years, or one to two years after first sexual intercourse, whichever is later. In some cases it may be appropriate to commence screening before 18 years of age.

Ceasing Pap smears

Pap smears may cease at the age of 70 for women who have had two normal Pap smears within the last five years. Women over 70 years who have never had a Pap smear, or who request a Pap smear, should be screened.

Source: NHMRC 1994

