

7 SUCCESS STORIES FOR WOMEN'S HEALTH IN 2021

It's the year the gender health gap came under scrutiny in the UK and progress was made in bridging the divide.

... But *what* did that look like?



PERIOD POLITICS

VAT on sanitary products, aka the 'tampon tax', was axed across the UK.

Scotland passed a law to make free period products available to everyone who needs them and became the first country in the world to do so.



1 in 10 girls

in the UK can't afford to buy menstrual products.

BREAKING THE MENOPAUSE TABOO



The government agreed to slash the price of HRT in England, so women will only pay for it once a year and save up to £200 annually.

Wellbeing for Women's Menopause Workplace Pledge called on companies to better support employees going through the menopause. **Less than a week after its launch, over 100 employers had signed up.**



It's estimated that **900,000 women** in the UK have quit their jobs due to the menopause.

IMPROVED ACCESS TO THE CONTRACEPTIVE PILL

The contraceptive mini pill can now be bought over the counter in the UK.

Two types of progesterone-only pills are available without a prescription after a pharmacist consultation.

6 0 Y E A R S

It has taken **60 years** for women to be able to buy the Pill without a prescription.

Viagra was available to buy within a year.

VACCINE VICTORY AGAINST CANCER



A landmark study found that cervical cancer rates are almost **90%** lower in women who have been vaccinated against HPV.



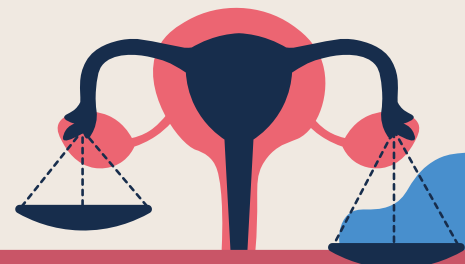
100 countries

are now using the HPV vaccination as part of a **global effort to eliminate cervical cancer** by the World Health Organization.



DEDICATED FEMALE PHARMA COMPANY

Global healthcare company Organon launched with a specific focus on women and an **acknowledgment that women need more choices** when it comes to managing their health.



Historically, female conditions such as endometriosis haven't received the same levels of research funding as male conditions.

MISCARRIAGE PREVENTION BREAKTHROUGH

Pregnant women in England who are at higher risk of miscarriage will receive progesterone under **new guidance from NICE**.

The hormone treatment will be offered to women experiencing bleeding in early pregnancy, who've previously had a miscarriage.



Researchers say that treating some pregnant women with progesterone could lead to **8,450 more babies** being born in the UK each year.

SCOTLAND LEADS THE WAY IN IMPROVING WOMEN'S HEALTH

The Scottish government launched the **first Women's Health Plan** with a focus on improving endometriosis diagnosis, miscarriage support, menopause services and heart disease.



Over a ten-year period

more than 8,200 women died following a heart attack. They could have been saved if they had received the same quality of care as men.

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