Contents

1	How screening started 1		
	The aim of the chapter 1		
	Pre-modern screening 1		
	Modern screening 6		
	Post-modern screening 21		
	Summary points 24		
	Test yourself 25		
2	What screening is, and is not	27	
	The aim of the chapter 27		

The aim of the chapter 27

Definitions and meanings 27

The kind of screening that this book is about 27

Screening in everyday language 28

Current meanings within health services across the globe 28

Where screening fits in the disease pathway 31

Other kinds of testing in people without signs or symptoms 33

Screening is different from clinical practice 34

Principles of screening 36

Genetics and screening 43

Summary points 45

Test yourself 45

The aim of the chapter 47

Putting people through the screening system 48

The experience for those being screened 57

The system and its outcomes 62

Summary points 66

Test yourself 67

4 Measuring what a screening programme does 69

The aim of the chapter 69

Three main sources of bias in screening evaluation 70

Three main methods for evaluating screening programmes 78

Measures of test performance 91
Two additional sources of information 93
Summarizing all information on outcomes 96
A note on sound science 99
Summary points 101
Test yourself 102

- The aim of the chapter 105

 Drivers for unplanned screening 105

 Implementing from scratch 107

 Creating order out of chaos 121

 Summary points 124

 Test yourself 125
- 6 Quality-assuring screening programmes 127
 The aim of the chapter 127
 Why quality assurance is essential in screening programmes 127
 Some history 128
 Applying quality assurance to screening programmes 132
 Summary points 145
 Test yourself 146
- 7 Day-to-day management of screening programmes for public health practitioners and managers 149

 The aim of the chapter 149

 Coping with demand for, or provision of, harmful screening 150

 Problem-solving in existing national programmes 159

 Handling concerns about commercial sector screening 162

 Screening and the law 165

 Handling the media 170

 Summary points 174

 Test yourself 175
- 8 Making policy on screening programmes 177

 The aim of this chapter 177

 Who makes policy decisions about screening programmes? 178

 What kind of decisions have to be made? 179

 How screening policy decisions are made 180

 Evidence and resources 180

Using evidence for policy-making 182
The importance of values 205
The importance of beliefs 207
The importance of commercial interests 211
The ethics of policy-making 214
To conclude 224
Summary points 225
Test yourself 226

Answers 229 Glossary 245 References 257 Index 277