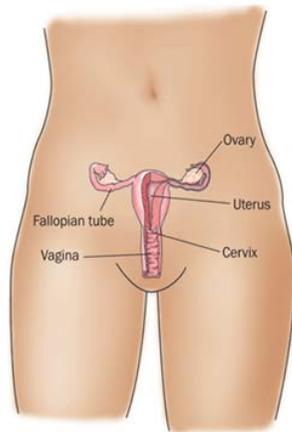


CERVICAL CANCER: What You Need to Know

What Is Cervical Cancer?

Cervical cancer affects women and begins in the cervix. The cervix is the lower end of a woman's uterus (or womb). The cervix connects the vagina (birth canal) to the upper part of the uterus.

Cervical cancer can be prevented and it can also be detected early. This is why the HPV (human papilloma virus) vaccine (used to prevent cervical cancer) AND the "Pap test" (used to detect cervical cancer) are so important.



What Causes Cervical Cancer?

- It occurs most often in women over age 30
- The most important risk for cervical cancer is infection by the human papilloma virus (HPV)
- Smoking cigarettes increases your risk for developing cervical cancer
- If someone in your family had cervical cancer

What Can I Do To Lower My Chances Of Getting Cervical Cancer?

- The HPV vaccine can prevent cervical and other cancers – girls can begin getting the vaccine at ages 11-12; women age 26 and younger should ask about getting the vaccine; boys should also receive the HPV vaccine. Talk with your health care provider.
- Safe sex
- Routine Pap tests
- Follow up of Pap tests that are not normal

How Do I Find Cervical Cancer Early?

Cervical cancer can be found early by regular Pap tests. The "Pap test" is a test for cervical cancer and is not the same as a pelvic exam.

- All women age 21-29 should have a Pap test every 3 years.
- After age 30, women should have a Pap test every 3 years or a Pap test with HPV test every 5 years.

Call Your Doctor If You Have any Signs or Symptoms

Signs and symptoms of late cervical cancer can include bleeding or discharge from the vagina that is not normal for you, such as bleeding after sex.

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More information:

American Cancer Society:

[Cervical Cancer Information](#)

National Cancer Institute:

[Cervical Cancer- Patient Version](#)

Need help getting screened for cervical cancer or scheduling a screening appointment?

For women who cannot afford or need assistance in scheduling a mammogram, the Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Navigation Program may be able to help. For more information about the BCCCNP, please call toll free 844-446-8727.

Facts about Cervical Cancer

Estimated 2017 Cervical Cancer Diagnoses and Deaths in Michigan:

New Diagnoses:

370

Deaths:

110

From: [American Cancer Society Cancer Statistics Center Michigan at a Glance](#)