

Cervical cancer

REDUCE YOUR RISK



The best protection against cervical cancer is HPV* vaccination and regular screening tests.

- Women should get screened for HPV and cancer.
- If you smoke, quit. If you don't smoke, don't start.

The HPV vaccine can prevent about 90% of cervical cancers, and a number of other cancers in males and females.

All males and females ages 9-26 should get the HPV vaccine. It is most effective when given at ages 11-12. Unvaccinated men and women ages 27-45 can also get the HPV vaccine and should talk to their doctor about the benefits of the vaccine.

*HPV – human papillomavirus

Screening guidelines

- **Age 21-29**
Get a Pap test every three years.
- **Age 30-65**
Get a Pap test and HPV test every five years.
- **After age 65**
MD Anderson does not recommend screening for most women after age 65. Talk to your doctor about screening recommendations.

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Almost all

cervical cancers are caused by

the HPV virus.

Risk factors

- HPV infection
- Weakened immune system from medications
- HIV infection
- History of severe cervical dysplasia, a pre-cancerous condition
- Smoking

Warning signs

- Excessive vaginal discharge
- Bleeding after intercourse
- Abnormal bleeding between periods

Talk to your doctor if you notice anything unusual or if you have one or more risk factors for cervical cancer.



Our cancer prevention specialists are experts in cancer risk reduction and early detection.

Appointments available
713-745-8040

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