

Cervical cancer

REDUCE YOUR RISK



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

- Boys and girls should complete the HPV vaccine series at age 11 or 12.
- 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.

The HPV vaccine can be given as early as age 9 and up to age 26 for females and age 21 for males.

*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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Making Cancer History®

Almost all
cervical cancers
are caused by the
HPV virus.

Risk factors

- HPV
- 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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