

# 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 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 starting at age 21, or HPV test every five years starting at age 25.
- **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.

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS

# MDAnderson ~~Cancer~~ Center

Making Cancer History®

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**  
**877-632-6789**

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS  
**MD Anderson**  
**Cancer Center**  
Making Cancer History®