



Cervical Cancer

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Symptoms

- Cervical cancer may not cause signs and symptoms
- Advanced cervical cancer may cause bleeding or discharge from the vagina that is not normal

Risk factors

- Almost all cervical cancers are caused by human papillomavirus (HPV), a common virus that can be passed from one person to another during sex
- Having human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) (the virus that causes AIDS)
- Smoking

Screening recommendations

- Women aged 21 to 29, Pap test every three years
- Women aged 30 to 65, Pap test every three years;
OR high-risk HPV testing every five years;
OR every five years with high-risk HPV testing in combination with Pap test

Testing information

- HPV testing looks for the virus that can cause cell changes on the cervix
- A Pap test (or Pap smear) looks for precancers, cell changes on the cervix that might become cervical cancer if they are not treated appropriately

For more information, contact us at the following:

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MISSISSIPPI STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH