

Cervical Cancer

Screening guidelines for women and people with a cervix at average risk.

Under Age 25

Screening is not recommended.

Cervical cancer is rare before age 25.

Ages 25 to 65

Get screened using a primary HPV test every 5 years.

If primary HPV testing is not available, screening may be done with a co-test (both HPV and Pap) **every 5 years**, or a Pap test **every 3 years**.*

**Getting screened regularly is the most important factor, regardless of which test.*

Over Age 65

Most should stop screening.

People who have had regular screening in the previous 10 years with negative results should stop screening.

People with a cervix

includes women who have not had their cervix surgically removed, transgender men who retain their cervix, and non-binary people with a cervix.

People who have received the HPV vaccine

should still follow age-appropriate screening guidelines.

People who have had a total hysterectomy

(removal of the uterus and cervix) should stop screening unless the hysterectomy was done as a treatment for cervical cancer or a serious pre-cancer.

Questions to Ask a Doctor About Cancer Screening Tests

- What cancer screening tests are recommended for someone my age?
- How often should I get the screening tests?
- Where can I go to get screened?
- How do I schedule my screening tests?
- Will my screening tests (or other costs) be covered by my health insurance?
- What will the screening tests cost if they are not covered by insurance?

Cancer Screening Conversation Starters

- I care about you and your health. Are you getting regular cancer screening tests?
- Did you know there are tests that can catch changes in your body before they become cancer?
- My breast/cervical/colorectal/lung/prostate cancer screening is coming up. Have you scheduled yours yet?
- Regular cancer screening is important. Is there anything I can do to help you get screened, like finding information, scheduling an appointment, or helping with childcare or transportation?

Have Questions About Screening?

Visit cancer.org/getscreened for cancer screening FAQs, including information about how to schedule a screening test, how to afford screening with and without insurance, and more.