

NO. 2 THE BIG 5 CANCERS AFFECTING WOMEN IN SA

CERVICAL CANCER

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

CERVICAL CANCER IS THE 2ND MOST COMMON CANCER



CANSA offers Pap smears via our Mobile Health Clinics & our CANSA Care Centres

(Pap Smear = reliable screening test for the early detection of cervical cancer - a swab of cervical cells)

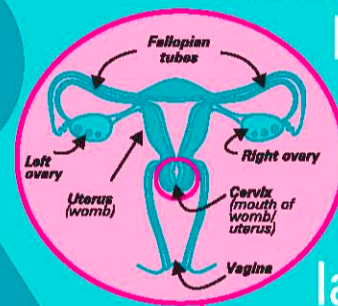
Human Papilloma viruses (HPVs) are a group of more than 100 related viruses. About 40 types are sexually transmitted through genital contact while 2 types (16 + 18) are considered high risk in South Africa

High risk HPV is estimated to cause...


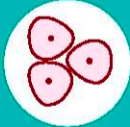


- 70%** of cervical cancers of anal cancers
- 50%** of vaginal and vulvar cancers of penile cancers
- 20%** of head and neck cancers

Go for regular Pap Smears

Women ages 18 - 25 who have ever been sexually active should have Pap smears every 3 years, or 2 years later after first sexual activity (whichever is later) and continue until age 70



MYTH vs FACT

- Cervical cancer can't be treated**  Cervical cancer can be effectively treated if detected & diagnosed early
- HPV infection is uncommon**  HPV infection is common & is transmitted via skin-to-skin contact & body fluids
- Older women don't need Pap smears**  All women aged 25+ need regular Pap smears until age 70
- Smoking is not linked to cervical cancer**  Smoking increases the risk of cervical cancer



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