

Cervical Cancer Screening

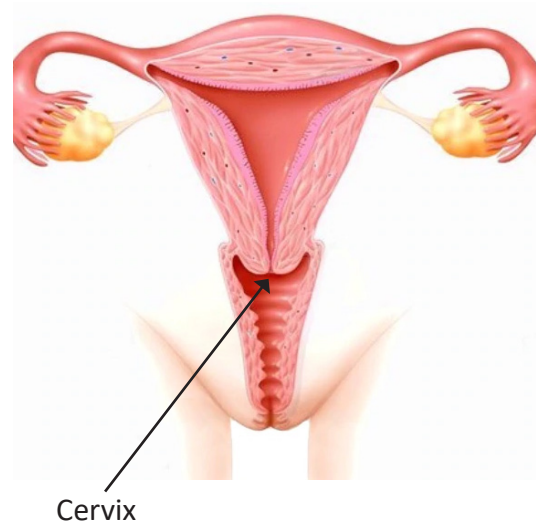
What is a Pap smear?

A pap smear is one of the most reliable and effective cancer screenings. It is a screening used to detect changes in cells of the bottom part of the uterus, also called the cervix. It can detect cell changes on the cervix that can be treated BEFORE cancer develops.

A pap is performed by a provider using two small plastic brushes to collect cells from the cervix. The sample is then examined for abnormalities by a specially trained person.

Pap Smear Frequency	
<u>Age</u>	<u>Pap Smear</u>
Under 21	None
21-29	Every 3 years
30-65	Every 5 years

You may be asked to have a pap screening done more frequently due to an abnormal result in the past.



What is a Pelvic Exam?

During a pelvic exam, your provider looks for any medical problems in your pelvis, vagina, pelvic floor and the surrounding muscles.

When should the Pelvic Exam be done?

Most women do not need a pelvic exam every year, but it is often part of your annual well-woman visit with your provider. It can also be done if you are having abdominal or vaginal problems. Discuss with your provider whether you need a pelvic exam during your well woman visit.

Well-Woman Visit: Symptoms to share with your provider

- Trouble or pain urinating
- Pain with intercourse
- Pelvic Pain
- Unusual vaginal bleeding
- Abnormal vaginal discharge
- Other new or worsening symptoms

If you desire STD testing, please let your nurse or provider know.