

CERVICAL CANCER SCREENING IS IMPROVING

Saskatchewan is introducing **combined Pap and HPV testing** to support more accurate testing and safer follow-up care.

What does this mean for me?

What is combined Pap and HPV testing?

A Pap test checks for abnormal cell changes on the cervix. If these cell changes are left undetected and untreated they may develop into cervical cancer. Everyone going for cervical screening will get a Pap test.

An HPV test checks for high-risk Human Papillomavirus (HPV). High-risk HPV infections can cause changes in the cells of the cervix. Most cases of cervical cancer are caused by high-risk HPV that has gone many years without being detected and treated. Depending on your age and Pap test result, an HPV test may automatically be done using your Pap sample.

Q: WHEN DO I GO FOR SCREENING?

A: Screening starts at age 25 or three years after becoming sexually active, whichever is later.

Sexual activity includes intercourse as well as digital or oral sexual activity involving the genital area with a partner of any gender.

Q: WILL I NEED ANOTHER EXAM FOR THE HPV TEST?

A: No. Just as before, your health-care provider will collect a Pap sample. This sample will be used for your Pap test. Depending on the results and your age, the lab will test for high-risk HPV using the same sample.

Q: I DON'T HAVE A FAMILY DOCTOR. WHERE CAN I GO FOR SCREENING?

A: Visit the [Screening Program for Cervical Cancer website](#) or call 1-800-667-0017 to find out where to book a Pap test in your area.

Q: HOW OFTEN DO I GET SCREENED?

A: Routine screening is every three years until the age of 69.

Having a Pap test every three years provides the same benefits and less risk than having a Pap test every one or two years.

Q: WHY TEST FOR HPV?

A: 99.7% of cervical cancer is caused by high-risk HPV.



Scan here to learn more

Screening Program for Cervical Cancer

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Online:
www.saskcancer.ca/spcc