

Cervical Cancer Screening

The cervix is the lower, narrow end of a woman's uterus. The uterus, also known as the womb, is where a baby grows when a woman is pregnant.

Cervical cancer

is usually a slow growing cancer that develops over many years. The changes that happen to the cervix can be seen by a

Pap test

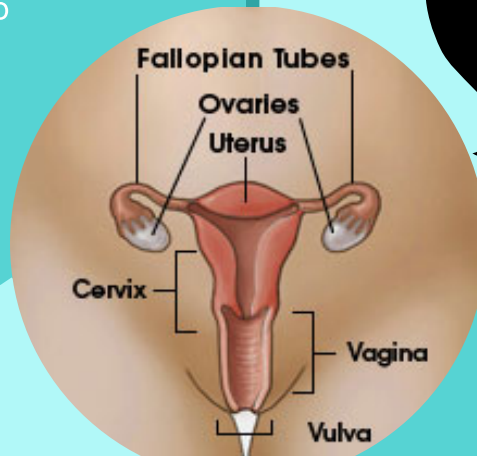
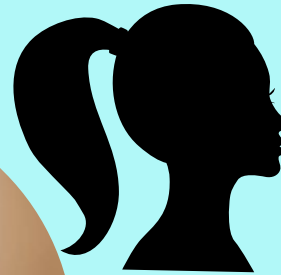
which is a simple test done during a pelvic exam.



Annual pelvic exams are recommended. Pap tests begin at age

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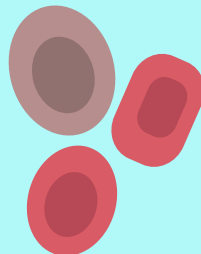
and should occur every three years if Paps are normal.



If the Pap test shows that if

abnormal cells

are starting to grow these cells can be removed before they develop into cancer. Because of the Pap test, cervical cancer is the easiest female cancer to prevent. It is also very curable when found and treated early.



Paps can occur less frequently after age

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with HPV testing. Discuss your plan with your provider.

