

# Prevent Cervical Cancer

with the **Right Test** at the **Right Time**

Screening tests can find abnormal cells so they can be treated before they turn into cancer.

⌚ The Pap test looks for changes in cells on the cervix that could turn into cancer if left untreated.

⌚ The human papillomavirus (HPV) test looks for the virus that causes these cell changes.

The only cancer the Pap test screens for is cervical.



HPV is the main cause of cervical cancer.



- ⌚ HPV is a very common virus, passed from one person to another during sex.
- ⌚ Most people get it, but it usually goes away on its own.
- ⌚ If HPV doesn't go away, it can cause cancer.

Most women don't need a Pap test every year!

Have your 1st Pap test when you're

**21**

If your test results are normal, you can wait **3** years for your next Pap test.



HPV tests aren't recommended for screening women under 30.



When you turn **30** you have a choice:

If your test results are normal, get a Pap test every **3** years.

OR

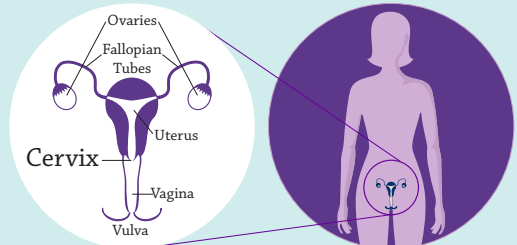
Get both a Pap test and an HPV test every **5** years.

You can stop getting screened if:

- ⌚ You're older than **65** and have had normal Pap test results for many years.
- ⌚ Your cervix was removed during surgery for a non-cancerous condition like fibroids.



The cervix is the lower, narrow end of the uterus (womb) that connects the uterus to the vagina (birth canal).



**NO INSURANCE?** You maybe be able to get **FREE** or **LOW-COST SCREENING** through the Alabama Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program. For more info: Call 1-877-252-3334, scan this QR code, or visit our website.



More information about cervical cancer:  
[www.alabamapublichealth.gov/bandc](http://www.alabamapublichealth.gov/bandc)

Alabama Department of Public Health  
Division of Cancer Prevention and Control

