

What is cervical cancer screening?

Cervical cancer screening is used to find changes in the cells of the cervix that could lead to cancer. Screening includes cervical cytology or Pap smear and testing for human papillomavirus (HPV) by HPV DNA test.

Cells infected with HPV often change back to normal cells naturally. However, in some women, the abnormal cells do not change back to normal and can develop into cancer. It takes 10 to 15 years for the abnormal cells to change to cancer.

Therefore, it is important to do follow-up tests of these abnormal cells and if necessary treat them to prevent cervical cancer from developing.

Who are eligible for cervical cancer screening?

- Women aged between 25 and 65 years except
 - If you have had a total hysterectomy

Signs and symptoms of cervical cancer

- Most women may not have symptoms at early stages
- Bleeding between periods
- Bleeding during or after sex
- Bleeding after menopause
- Any unpleasant vaginal discharge
- Discomfort or pain during sex

Do not wait until you get the symptoms, it may be too late by then.

If you notice any of these symptoms make sure you see your doctor.

Cervical Cancer Awareness



Cervical cancer is preventable but one Indian woman dies every 8 minutes of cervical cancer

Human papillomavirus is responsible for causing cervical cancer

Primary prevention

Protect your daughters by vaccination
9-14 yrs: 2 doses, 6 months apart
>15 yrs : 3 doses as per schedule

Secondary prevention

Protect the women in your family by screening:

- HPV test - every 5 years
- Pap smear - every 3 years

**Cervical Cancer Screening
Preventive Oncology Services :
Gynaecological Oncology Dept
Tata Medical Center**

**Newtown, Kolkata 700160
Phone No. : 6605 7627, 7631
Email : cervicalscreening@tmckolkata.com**

**Cervical cancer screening can stop cancer before it starts.
Don't forget to make an appointment**

**CERVICAL CANCER
is
PREVENTABLE
Get yourself screened today**



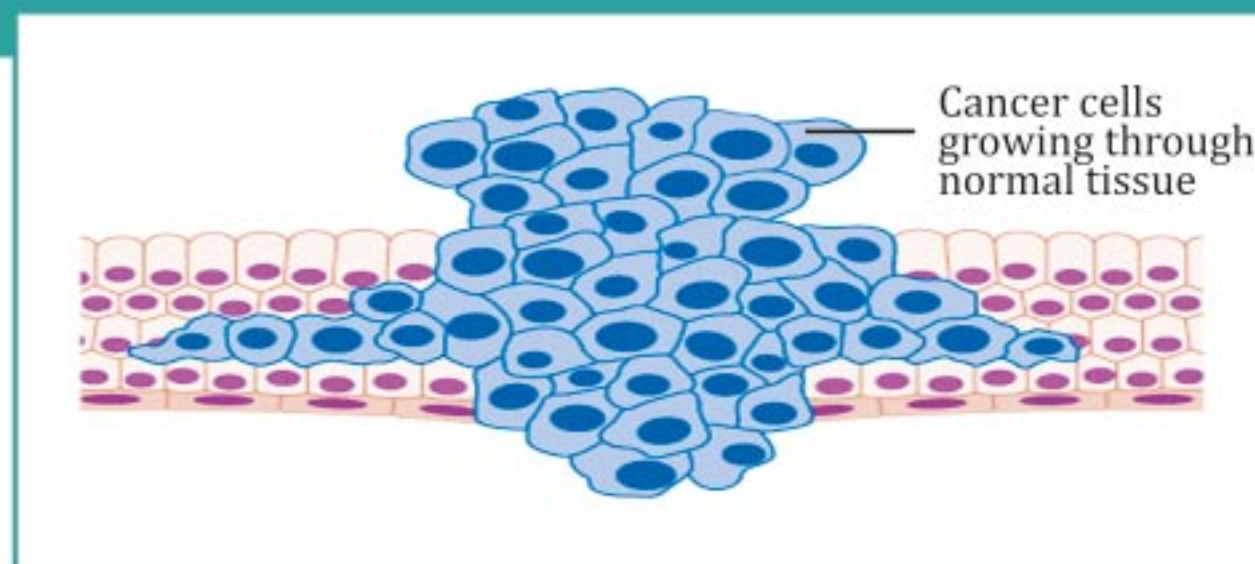
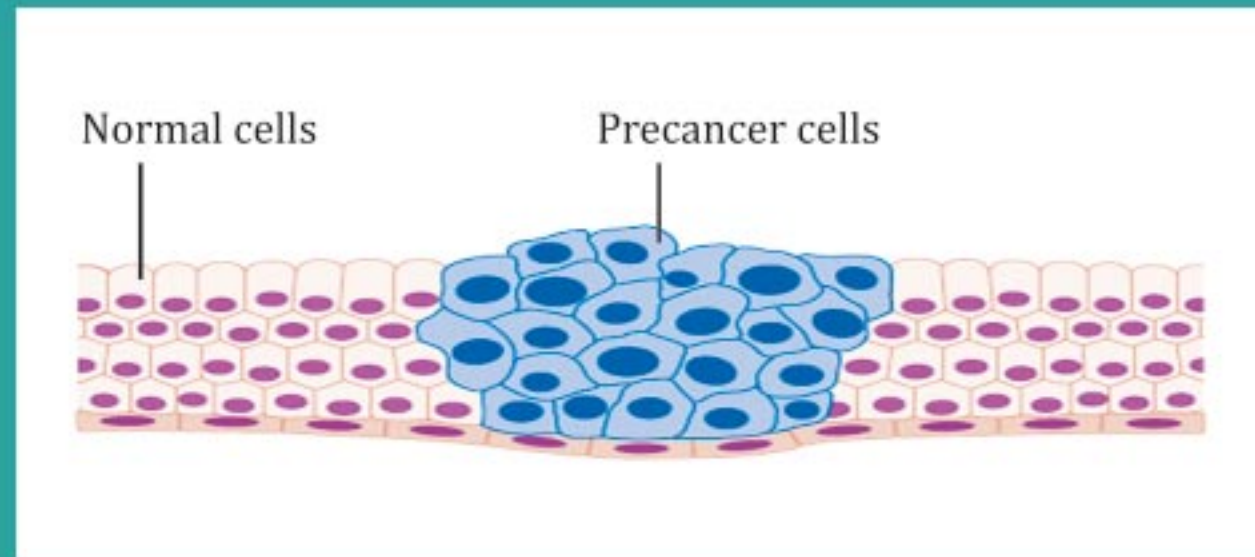
TATA MEDICAL CENTER

Cancer of the uterine cervix is the second most common cancer among women in India. It is estimated that 100,000 new cases were diagnosed in 2016 and expected 104,000 will be diagnosed in 2020. About 62,000 women died of cervical cancer in 2015, accounting for a quarter of the total cancer related deaths among women in India.

What is cancer?

Cells are the basic units that make up the human body. Cells grow and divide to make new cells as and when the body needs them. When cells get too old or damaged, they die and new cells take their place.

Cancer begins when certain internal changes impair this orderly process. Cells start to grow uncontrollably. These cells may form a mass called a tumor. A tumor can be cancerous or benign. A cancerous tumor can grow and spread to other parts of the body. Benign tumors generally do not spread to other organs.

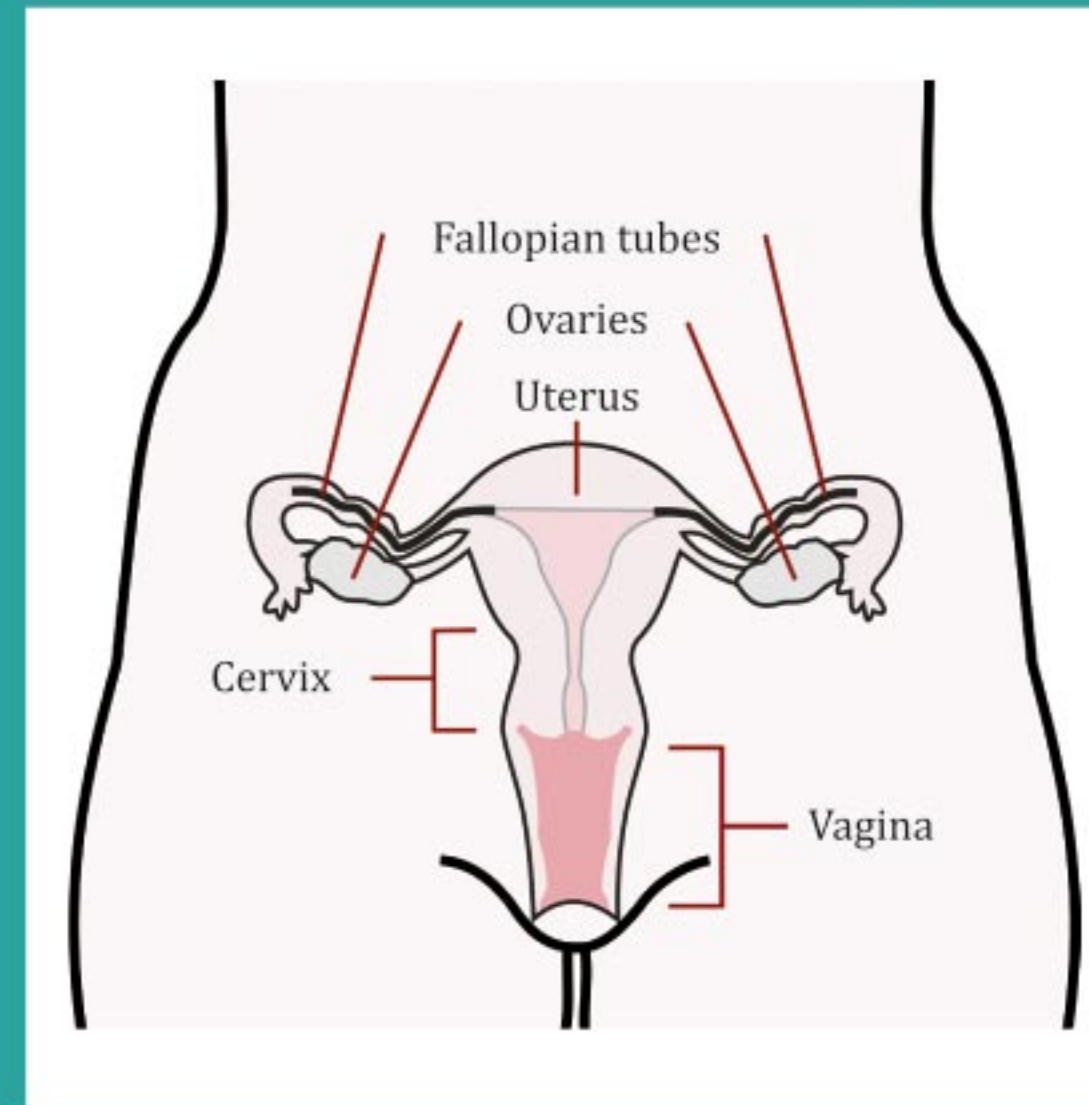


What causes cervical cancer?

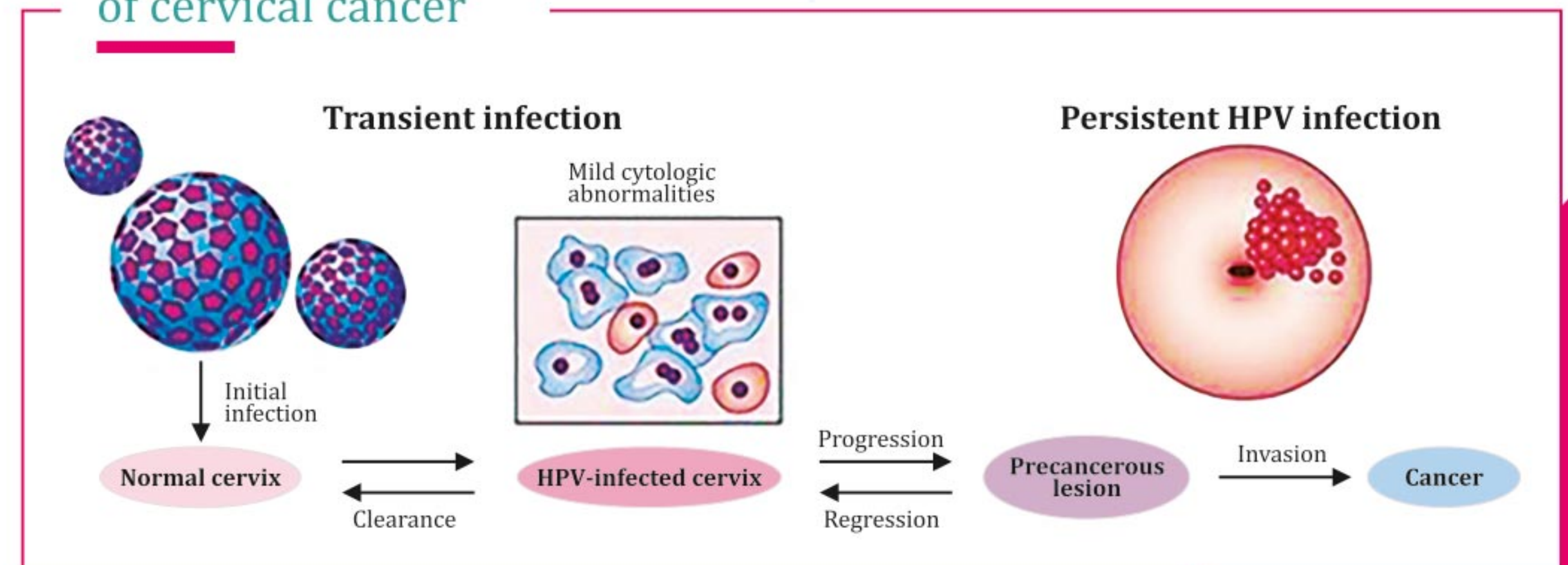
- Cervical cancer is caused by a virus called human papillomavirus (HPV).
- Human papillomavirus (HPV) types 16 and 18 are responsible for about 70% of all cervical cancer cases worldwide. HPV is passed from person to person during sexual activity.

What is the cervix?

The cervix is the lower part of your uterus (womb). Cervical cancer starts in the cells lining the cervix.



Natural history of cervical cancer



What are the risk factors?

- Having multiple partners
- First full-term pregnancy or sex at teenage
- Smoking
- Weak immune system
- Taking contraceptive pills for many years
- Having multiple pregnancies

How can cervical cancer be prevented?

- By getting HPV vaccination between 9 to 26 yrs before sexual exposure.
- Routine cervical cancer screening can help doctors find changes in the cervix early before they develop into cancer.
- Treating these early changes can prevent cervical cancer from developing.