Cervical cancer is the 4th most common cancer in women worldwide. Each year, more than 604,000 women are diagnosed with cervical cancer, and more than 342,000 die from the disease worldwide (2022).

In the U.S., more than 14,100 new cases of cervical cancer are diagnosed and more than 4,280 women die from the disease each year.

Asian Americans have the lowest rates of cervical cancer collectively but if you look at their subgroups, they have a higher incidence rate of cervical cancer.

Black women are more likely to die of cervical cancer than any other group.

Latina/Hispanic women have one of the highest rates of cervical cancer and the second-highest rate of deaths related to cervical cancer.

American Indian and Alaska Native women are nearly twice as likely to develop cervical cancer compared to white women and are four times as likely to die from cervical cancer.

Cervical cancer is almost always preventable through routine screenings. Please check with your healthcare provider to stay up-to-date on the current guidelines.

HPV, the cause of nearly all cervical cancers, can be prevented when girls and boys are vaccinated against the virus.
Current HPV vaccines protect against the 9 types of HPV that are responsible for HPV-related cancers and diseases. HPV vaccines are recommended for both girls and boys. With guidelines changing each year, we encourage you to check with your primary care provider on the most current recommendations. It's also important to remember, even if you've been vaccinated, you still need to get screened for cervical cancer.

Cervical cancer screening guidelines can be confusing and are changing quite often based on the development of new technology and research data. Speak to your healthcare provider about how often you should be screened and at what age you can stop getting screened. You'll need to be screened more often if you have any abnormal results.

Do all women need to be screened for cervical cancer?

If you've ever had sex with anyone, you need to be tested. Some women think they don't need to be screened. But they do! This includes women who have been in long-term relationships, lesbians, women who haven't had sex in many years, and women who've only had sex once or with only one partner.

If I have cervical cancer, what's the best treatment?

We're not qualified to answer that. But there are many effective treatment options available. We recommend seeing a gynecologic oncologist, if there is one available in your area. We also suggest that you bring plenty of questions to your healthcare provider. Here's a start:

- How will you decide which procedure to use?
- What will the treatment cost?
- What are the side effects?
- How will this affect my sex life?
- Will the treatment cure me?
- How will I know if I'm cured?
- What if I want to get pregnant in the future?

Remember, you are in charge of your health—and you have the right to ask questions! There's also a lot of support available, like us, while you're going through a diagnosis.