

# PUBLIC AWARENESS ABOUT CERVICAL CANCER PREVENTION BY VACCINATION

WHY, WHEN & HOW?

Cervical Cancer Awareness

HPV Vaccination Guide

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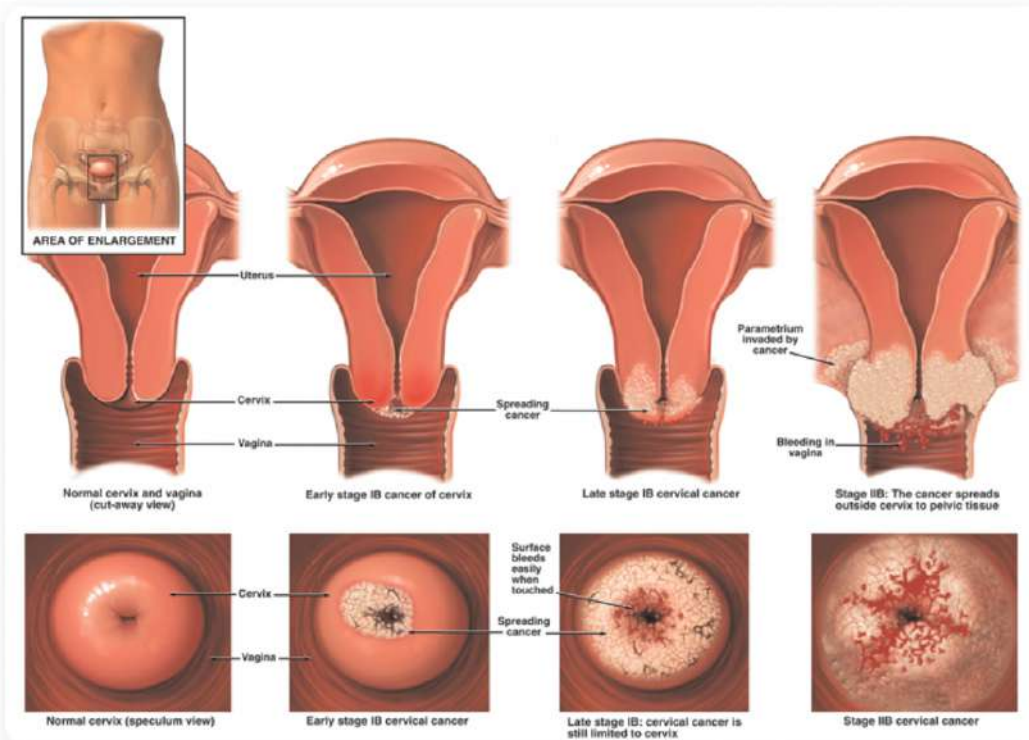
## What is Cancer?

Cancer is the uncontrolled growth of certain cells in the body, causing tumors or growths. Not all growths are cancer – those cells which may spread to other parts of the body and can interfere with normal functions are called cancer.



## What is Cervical Cancer?

It is cancer that begins on the **cervix** – the mouth of the uterus. A malignant tumour of the lowermost part of the uterus (womb) which can be prevented by HPV vaccine, regular screening by PAP, HPV typing, VIA & VILI Colposcopy.





## How is Cervical Cancer Diagnosed?

- Clinical Symptoms
- Screening

### What is Screening?

A test done on people who are healthy and without symptoms, to identify those with a higher chance of getting a particular disease. It can detect early signs before a woman has symptoms, when treatment can prevent the disease from developing.

The most common screening test is the **Papnicolaou (Pap) smear**. The physician collects a sample of cells from the cervix and sends it to the laboratory. Other tests include VIA or VILI (using Vinyegar/Lugol's Iodine).

## Can Cervical Cancer be Prevented?

Yes, cervical cancer can be prevented by:

- Education
- Screening
- Vaccination

### Cervical Cancer mortality in India

2<sup>nd</sup> Cause in female cancer deaths and 2<sup>nd</sup> leading cause of cancer deaths in women aged 15-44 years



## Why Vaccination?

HPV vaccines are highly effective at preventing the infection of susceptible women with the HPV types covered by the vaccine.

HPV vaccine should be given to females **before** they reach an age when the risk of HPV infection increases.

Ideally given to **10-12 year old girls** as per IAP recommendation. FDSGI recommends vaccination from **9 to 45 years of age**.

Given as **2 or 3 doses** (depending on age) over a period of 6 months.

### CERVICAL CANCER SYMPTOMS



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### Is PAP smear of Cx & Vaginal Smear required after vaccination?

Yes – as cervical cancer may occur by HPV strains other than those present in Quadrivalent & Nonavalent vaccines.

## Do Boys Also Need HPV Vaccine?

HPV vaccination can help prevent future infections leading to **Anal Cancer, Penile Cancer, and Oropharyngeal Cancer**.

Indian Academy of Pediatrics strongly recommends HPV Vaccine for boys from **9-15 years of age** – 2 doses with a gap of 6 months.

**Get your Boys also Vaccinated NOW.**

## Can Cervical Cancer be Treated?

Most cervical cancer can be **successfully treated** if found early, in middle-aged women who have never been screened, cancer may be discovered late, when it is more difficult to treat.



## Global Strategy for Cancer Cervix

In November 2020, WHO launched the global strategy to accelerate the elimination of cervical cancer by 2030, with targets of:

1. 90% of girls fully vaccinated with HPV vaccine by age 15

2. 70% of women screened using a high-performance test by age 35 and again by 45

3. 90% of women identified with cervical disease receive treatment

