

Cervical Cancer



CERVICAL CANCER



Cervical cancer is a cancer arising from the cervix. It is simply the over multiplication of abnormal cells in the cervix.

The cervix is the lower part of the uterus in the human female reproductive system.

While the cervical canal is a passage through which sperm must travel to fertilize an egg cell after sexual intercourse.

SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS

Early

Early stages of cervical cancer may be completely free of signs and symptoms.

Advanced Stage

- Vaginal discharge (heavy, bloody and/or foul-smelling)
- Weight loss
- Fatigue
- Pelvic pain or pain during intercourse
- Vaginal bleeding after intercourse, between periods or after menopause
- Leakage of urine and feces

Causes

It isn't clear what causes cervical cancer, however, there's often a connection between the Human Papillomavirus (HPV) and the cellular changes of the cervix.

HPV is a very common virus that can be transmitted through sexual intercourse. Since, there is no primary cause of cervical cancer, we can learn about the various risk factors that might contribute to the abnormal multiplication of cancerous cells.

Risk Factors

- Multiple sexual partners
- Smoking
- Use of contraceptives
- Early sexual activity
- Recurrent sexually transmitted infections (STIs)
- Multiple pregnancies

Prevention

- Get vaccinated with HPV
- Have regular Pap smear screening
- Practice safe sex
- Quit smoking

Treatment

- Surgery
- Radiotherapy
- Chemotherapy