

Know the Facts



Women should know this facts :

- All women should have regular visits with a health care provider
- Cervical cancer is caused by a common virus called HPV. Anyone who ever had sex can get HPV.
- The best prevention for cervical cancer is the cervical cancer screening, HPV vaccination, abstinence, safe sexual practice.
- Most cervical cancer can be treated and cured if detected early.
- If you get an abnormal test result, be sure to follow up as told by your doctor.

Some risk factors

- Sexual activities at young age
- Multiple sex partner
- Unprotected sex
- Unhealthy Lifestyle
- Smoking



Quickly call Samoa Cancer Society for more information



Ph: +685 23984

Email: SamoaCancer@samoasonline.ws

Location: Hospital Road Motootua (beside new hospital, behind NKF @ National Health Complex).

Cervical Cancer often does not cause symptoms until it is advanced. So it is important to get screened even when you feel healthy.



Civil Society Support Programme (CSSP)



Cervical Cancer Prevention



Vave iloa; Vave vaai se fomai; Vave vili mai

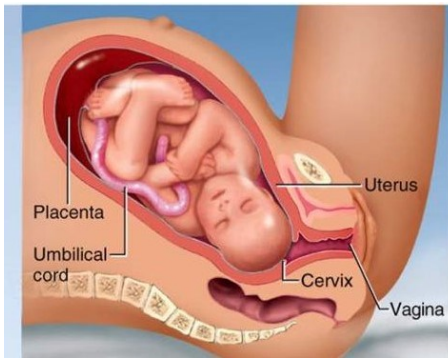


Moto'otua Hospital Compound Ph: 23984

What is Cervical Cancer?

Cervical Cancer is a **Preventable cancer of the Cervix**. Cervical Cancer can grow on your cervix– the same way other cancer can grow on other body parts. It does not cause symptoms until advanced. Women with advanced cervical cancer may have abnormal bleeding, discharge, or pain. It can take 10 to 15 years (or more) for **abnormal cells** to turn into cancer

What is the Cervix?



Cervix is the opening of your uterus (womb). It is part of a woman's reproductive system.

Functions of the cervix include:

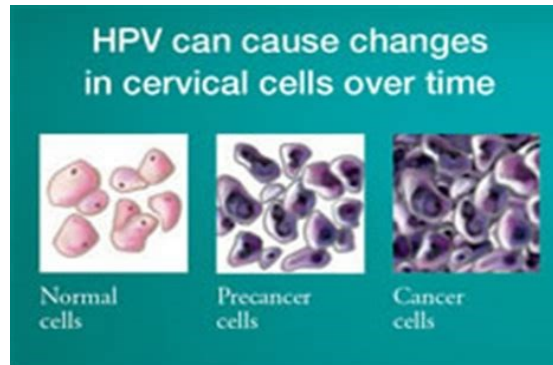
- Producing some of the moistness that lubricate the vagina.
- Produce the mucus that facilitates survival and travel of sperms up to the fallopian tube to fertilize the egg.
- Holding the developing baby in the uterus during pregnancy.

What causes Cervical Cancer?

A virus, called human papillomavirus also just called HPV— can cause normal cells on your cervix to turn abnormal. Over many years, abnormal cells can turn into cancer if they are not found and treated by your doctor.

What is HPV?

HPV is a virus that is commonly transmitted through sexual intercourse and other sexual activities. It can infect the genital areas of both men and women. Early infection may usually has no signs and symptoms and go away on its own.



Abnormal cells are sometimes called “**precancer cells**” because they are not normal , but they have not yet cause cancer.

Diagnose

- Pap Smear– available In Samoa
- Cervical Biopsy
- HPV DNA screening programs for cervical cancer.

How can I Prevent Cervical Cancer.

You can prevent cervical cancer with regular screening test, like Pap test and the HPV DNA test. All women should start getting regular screening test soon after their first engagement in sexual activities .

Pap Smear Test

- Pap smear is the screening test for cervical cancer. It looks for abnormal cells on your cervix that could turn into cancer over time.

HPV Test/ Vaccine

- Vaccination with HPV vaccine is a very effective way of preventing cervical Cancer
- Young adolescent females (10-24 years) must be vaccinated before they are ever engage in sexual activities .

