

HPV TESTING IS SAFE

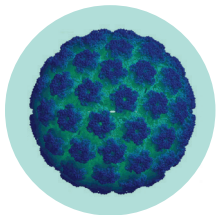


VCS Pathology



90% of women 90% of men
will have HPV in their lifetime

Occasionally HPV remains inactive in the cells and can be re-activated in later life. This is why it is important to continue to have tests even if you've been with the same partner or haven't been sexually active for many years.



There are 14 HPV types that cause **99%** of cervical cancers and all of these types are detected by the new test

The new cervical screening test looks for the Human Papillomavirus (HPV).

HPV is so common that most sexually active people will be infected at some stage, as genital HPV is spread through skin to skin contact during sex.

HPV usually has no symptoms and is cleared from the body naturally. Occasionally it causes serious disease.

98% of people infected with genital HPV will clear the virus naturally within 5 years

A few types of HPV have the potential to cause cervical cancer.

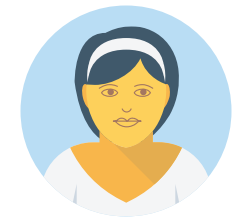
HPV 16 & 18 are responsible for 77% of cancers of the cervix in Australia.

And if a woman has persistent infection with one of the HPV types that have the potential to cause cancer, cell changes may occur in the cervix.

So if we find HPV is present, the cells of the cervix will be automatically examined for any changes.

Depending on the type of HPV and the cell changes found, you might need immediate further investigation or a repeat test in 12 months.

30% more cases of cervical cancer will be prevented with the new National Cervical Screening Program compared with the Pap Smear Program



HPV TO CERVICAL CANCER



VCS Pathology

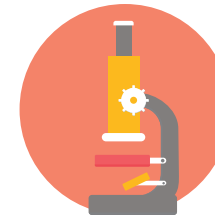


Preventative Measures

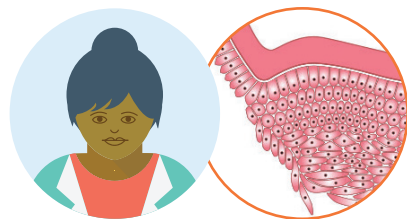
Primary prevention via HPV vaccination



Secondary prevention via screening with cytology

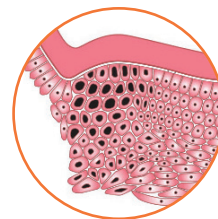


Secondary prevention via HPV screening



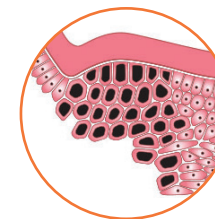
Uninfected woman

Clearance
←
HPV infection
→



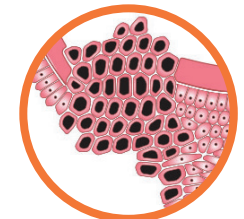
HPV infection - low grade abnormality

Clearance
←
Persistence and progression
→



Pre-cancer - high grade abnormality CIN2/3 or AIS

→
Invasion in small proportion of women



CERVICAL CANCER

Average Timeframe

5-10 years

10-20 years

This illustration has been adapted from Schiffman M 2005