

Screenings Can Help Detect Cervical Cancer

By Sima Michaels Dembo, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Office of Population Affairs

Cervical cancer is the only gynecological cancer for which there is a screening test. Screening can help find this cancer early, when treatment can be most effective. To help you be informed and stay healthy, the Office of Population Affairs (OPA) in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services has information on screenings and warning signs to help with early detection:

- [Pap tests](#) check for abnormal cells changes on the cervix.
- [HPV](#) is the most common sexually transmitted disease, and is responsible for more than 70% of cervical cancers
- [Cervical cancer](#) can be treated by removing the cancerous cells or through radiation or chemotherapy.

You can use the [clinic locator](#) on OPA's website to find a family planning clinic where you access low-cost, confidential care including Pap tests.