



THE BIG 5 CANCERS AFFECTING WOMEN IN SA

#2 Cervical Cancer

DID YOU KNOW?

Cervical cancer is the 2nd most common cancer

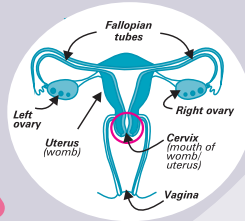


Go for regular PAP SMEARS

Cervical cancer can be effectively treated if detected & diagnosed early

Pap Smear = reliable screening test for the early detection of cervical cancer - a swab of cervical cells

Women ages 18 - 25 who have ever been sexually active should have Pap smears every 3 years, or 2 years later after first sexual activity (whichever is later) and continue until age 70



Human Papilloma viruses (HPVs)

Almost all cervical cancers are caused by HPV - a common virus that is spread through skin-to-skin contact, body fluids and sexual intercourse.

Signs and symptoms

- ➔ Abnormal vaginal bleeding between periods
- ➔ Continuous vaginal discharges
- ➔ Menstrual periods becoming heavier and lasting longer than usual
- ➔ Vaginal bleeding or pain during sexual intercourse
- ➔ Increased urinary frequency
- ➔ Vaginal bleeding after menopause

Risk Factors

- ➔ Failure to always use protection during sexual intercourse
- ➔ Sexually transmitted infections
- ➔ Having many sexual partners and high-risk sexual activity
- ➔ Having first sexual intercourse at a young age
- ➔ Being overweight/obese with low physical activity levels
- ➔ Consumption of alcohol (could lead to high-risk sexual activity) and smoking



CANSA offers Pap smears at our CANSA Care Centres at an affordable rate