Cervical Cancer



Cervical Cancer

The 10th most common cancer among women in Singapore.

Cervical cancer is an abnormal growth that forms in the cervix.

Risk Factors

Human papillomavirus (HPV) infection

Smoking

Long-term birth control use

Multiple sexual partners



Symptoms of cervical cancer



Vaginal bleeding after intercourse, between periods, or after menopause



Watery, bloody vaginal discharge with foul smell and heave



Pelvic pain or pain during intercourse

Treatments



Surgery: localised removal of cancer cells



Chemotherapy: use of chemicals to eliminate cancer cells



Radiation therapy: use of high energy waves (Eg. X-Ray) to eliminate cancer cells

Screening and Prevention

Screening is crucial for early detection of cervical cancer, leading to earlier treatment and better results.

Screening options:

- 1) PAP smear test
- 2) HPV Polymerase Chain reaction (PCR) test



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Type of screening

25-29 years old

PAP smear test Every 3 years

30-69 years old

HPV PCR Every 5 years

> 69 years old

Continue screening if necessary



HPV Vaccination



It is recommended that all females between the ages of 9-26 years old should receive the vaccine.



References:

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