CERVICAL CANCER
AND
CERVICAL CANCER SCREENING
Content

- Cervical Cancer
- Cervical Cancer Screening
- Cervical Screening Programme
- Community Care Fund Pilot Scheme on Subsidised Cervical Cancer Screening and Preventive Education for Eligible Low-income Women
Cervical Cancer

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>10 Most Common Cancers among Females in 2016</th>
<th>No. of new cases</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Breast Cancer</td>
<td>4,108</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Colorectal Cancer</td>
<td>2,268</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Lung Cancer</td>
<td>1,850</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Corpus Cancer</td>
<td>1,050</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Thyroid Cancer</td>
<td>692</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Ovarian Cancer</td>
<td>598</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. <strong>Cervical Cancer</strong></td>
<td><strong>510</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Non-Melanoma Skin Cancer</td>
<td>498</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Stomach Cancer</td>
<td>474</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Liver Cancer</td>
<td>419</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All Sites</td>
<td>15,433</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Hong Kong Cancer Registry
## Cervical Cancer

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>10 Leading Causes of Female Cancer Deaths in 2017</th>
<th>No. of death</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Lung Cancer</td>
<td>1,294</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Colorectal Cancer</td>
<td>864</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Breast Cancer</td>
<td>721</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Liver Cancer</td>
<td>426</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Pancreatic Cancer</td>
<td>303</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Stomach Cancer</td>
<td>262</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Ovarian Cancer</td>
<td>218</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma</td>
<td>164</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cervical Cancer</strong></td>
<td><strong>150</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Leukaemia</td>
<td>129</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>All Sites</strong></td>
<td><strong>5,867</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Department of Health & Census and Statistics Department
Structure of Uterus

- Fallopian tube
- Ovary
- Cervix
- Vagina
- Uterus
Natural History of Cervical Cancer

Persistent infection with cancer-causing (or high-risk) human papillomavirus (HPV) types

- Most women with HPV infection do not have any symptoms, and will clear the infection on their own
- Some women will develop pre-cancerous cell changes, mostly regress to normal, but some may progress to cancer over years
Symptoms of Cervical Cancer

- Abnormal vaginal bleeding
  - Between periods
  - During or after sex
  - After menopause

- Vaginal discharge with foul smell

- Pelvic pain, backache (if involvement of nerve or bone is affected)

- Blood in urine or pain on passing urine (if urinary system is affected)

- Leg swelling (if lymphatic system is affected)

- General malaise and weight loss

Majority do not have any symptoms
Risk Factors of Cervical Cancer

- Multiple sexual partners or sexual partner with multiple sexual partners
- Sexual intercourse at earlier age
- Co-infection with sexually-transmitted diseases
- Smoking
- Weakened immunity, e.g. infected with Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV)
- Long term use of oral contraceptive pills for more than 5 years (but the risk returns to normal after 10 years of stopping use)
- Increasing parity (number of babies born) or younger age at first pregnancy

Most commonly neglected risk factor: Failure to get a regular cervical cancer screen
Prevention of Cervical Cancer

- Practise safer sex
- Get HPV vaccination before initiation of sexual activity
- Do not smoke

Cervical Cancer Screening = Additional Protection
Cervical Cancer Screening

Early Detection and Treatment of pre-cancerous cell changes of cervix

Purposes

Prevention of Cervical Cancer
Cervical Smear (Pap Smear)

- Put a speculum into vagina
- Wipe some cells from cervix with a spatula or a brush

 ✓ Simple
 ✓ Quick
 (Just a few minutes)
Cervical Smear Results

**Negative result (Normal)**
- No abnormal cell was found in cervix
- Still need regular cervical screening

**Positive result (Abnormal)**
- There are some changes in the cells of cervix, **but that does not imply that you already have cancer**
- Most of these changes are due to HPV infection
- A small number of women may have pre-cancerous cells which call for treatment to prevent them from developing into cancer
- Doctor will advise you on the necessary follow-up and investigations
Who Needs Cervical Cancer Screening?

**Aged 21-24 years**

Women aged 21-24 years who ever had sex and risk factors for cervical cancer, e.g. multiple sexual partners, smoking, etc., should seek advice from doctors concerning the need for cervical cancer screening.

**Aged 25-64 years**

Women aged 25-64 years who ever had sex should receive regular screening.

**Aged 65 years or above**

Women aged 65 years or above who ever had sex and have not received routine screening in the past 10 years, even after menopause, no sex for years or had sterilisation, should discuss with doctor about having screening.

**Already received HPV vaccination, still need regular cervical cancer screening**

HPV vaccination does not protect against the HPV types not included in the vaccine, nor against existing HPV infections.
Who Do Not Needs Cervical Cancer Screening?

- Never had sex
- Have hysterectomy with removal of cervix for benign diseases and without prior history of cervical changes
When Should You Have Cervical Cancer Screening?

Starting from the age of 25:
Women who ever had sex should have regular screening starting from the age of 25.

Aged 65 years or above:
If the first 2 consecutive annual screens are normal, subsequent screening should be done every 3 years.
Women aged 65 years or above may discontinue screening if all routine screens were normal in the past 10 years.

If you have symptoms:
See a doctor promptly, even if your last cervical smear was normal.
A territory-wide Cervical Screening Programme launched by the Department of Health in collaboration with the other healthcare sectors on 8 March 2004

- Encourage women to have regular cervical cancer screening
- Increase the coverage of cervical cancer screening
- Reduce the incidence and mortality rate of cervical cancer in Hong Kong
Cervical Screening Programme: Participant’s Right

Login
Cervical Screening Information System
www.csis.gov.hk
to view cervical smear records

To receive a reminder when the next smear is due

Can authorise own healthcare provider to view the past smear records in order to provide continuous care
1. Complete the registration form and register through healthcare providers who have registered with the Cervical Screening Programme (CSP).

2. Direct registration by women
   - Complete the online registration form at Cervical Screening Information System website www.csis.gov.hk, and then send a photocopy of the Hong Kong Identity Card to the CSP Office by post.
   - Download a registration form on the Cervical Screening Programme website www.cervicalscreening.gov.hk, send the completed form with a photocopy of the Hong Kong Identity Card to the CSP Office by post.
Where To Have Cervical Cancer Screening?

- Maternal and Child Health Centres (31 centres)
- Women Health Centres (3 centres) of Department of Health
- Family Doctors or Gynaecologists
- The family Planning Association of HK
- United Christian Nethersole Community Health Service
- Caritas Clinics
- Haven of Hope Christian Service Clinics
- Lady Helen Woo Women’s Diagnostic and Treatment Centre, HKU
- Centre of Research and Promotion of Women’s Health, CUHK
- Well Women Clinic, Kwong Wah Hospital
- Well Women Clinic, Tung Wah Eastern Hospital

As individual healthcare providers who provide cervical cancer screening service may have different appointment procedures and service charges, please contact them directly to enquire about service arrangements.
Booking for Cervical Screening Service

Maternal and Child Health Centres of the Department of Health
Cervical Screening Service 24-hour Phone Booking Hotline 3166 6631
For those with financial difficulties, possible for waive of payment?

Recipients of Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA)

Upon presenting the valid Certificate of CSSA (for Medical Waivers), recipients are waived from payment for their public health care (such as cervical cancer screening service provided by Maternal and Child Health Centres of the Department of Health)

Non-CSSA recipients

May consider applying for medical fee waiving in public hospitals and clinics

• Integrated Family Service Centres (Social Welfare Department)
• Family and Child Protective Service Units (Social Welfare Department)
• Medical Social Services Units of public hospitals and clinics
It was announced in the 2017 Policy Address that the Community Care Fund would be invited to launch a Pilot Scheme for subsidising eligible low-income women to receive cervical cancer screening and preventive education.

- Starting from 13 Dec 2017, for 3 years
- Details are available at the website of Cervical Screening Programme
  
  [www.cervicalscreening.gov.hk](http://www.cervicalscreening.gov.hk)
1. Meeting the criteria for cervical cancer screening; and
2. Holders of valid Hong Kong Identity Card; and
3. Beneficiaries of any of the following assistance:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Categories of Assistance</th>
<th>Service Charge</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA)</td>
<td>Free of Charge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level 0 Voucher under the Pilot Scheme on Residential Care Service Voucher (RCSV) for the Elderly</td>
<td>Free of Charge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waiver of medical charges under the medical fee waiving mechanism of public hospitals and clinics</td>
<td>Free of Charge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Normal Old Age Living Allowance/ Higher Older Age Living Allowance</td>
<td>Free of Charge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Working Family Allowance</td>
<td>Free of Charge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Working Incentive Transport Subsidy (WITS)</td>
<td>Free of Charge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Having household member(s) granted subsidy/ remission under the School Textbook Assistance (TA) Scheme or the Kindergarten and Child Care Centre Fee Remission Scheme (KCFRS)</td>
<td>HKD $100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Pilot Scheme: Screening Flow

Select a Service Provider

Contact the Service Provider for enquiry and booking appointment

Approached by Service Provider

Attend the Service Provider with the documentary proof required

Receive cervical cancer screening and preventive education
Pilot Scheme: Service Providers

Centre of Research and Promotion of Women’s Health of the Chinese University of Hong Kong

The Family Planning Association of Hong Kong
- Wan Chai Birth Control Clinic
- Ma Tau Chung Bith Control Clinic
- Wong Tai Sin Birth Control Clinic
- Tsuen Wan Birth Control Clinic
- Yuen Long Birth Control Clinic

United Christian Nethersole Community Health Service
- Jockey Club Wo Lok Community Health Centre
- Bradbury Kwong Tin Community Health Centre
- Jockey Club Tin Shui Wai Community Health Centre
- Kwong Fuk Community Health Centre

Enquiry or booking telephone no.: 2609 5150
Email: crpwh@cuhk.edu.hk

Enquiry telephone no.: 9062 7335
Enquiry WhatsApp no.: 6879 3669
Enquiry Website: www.famplan.org.hk/ccf-pap

Enquiry or booking telephone no.: 9517 5186
Booking WhatsApp no.: 6226 5902
Email: cervical@ucn.org.hk
Cervical Cancer Can Be Prevented

- Practise safer sex
- Get HPV vaccination before initiation of sexual activity
- Do not smoke

✓ Have regular cervical cancer screening
- Early detection and treatment of pre-cancerous cell changes in cervix
- Women aged 25 to 64 years who ever had sex should have regular cervical cancer screening
- If the first two consecutive annual screens are normal, subsequent screening should be done every 3 years
Prevent Cervical Cancer

Regular screening
Early detection
Timely treatment
Cervical cancer prevention
More Information

Family Health Service website
www.fhs.gov.hk

24-hour Health Education Hotline
2833 0111

Cervical Screening Programme website
www.cervicalscreening.gov.hk

For further enquiries, please seek advice from healthcare professionals
Frequently Asked Questions

1. I have no discomfort, do I still need cervical cancer screening?

- Most of the time, early abnormal cell change in your cervix or even early stage of cervical cancer does not cause any symptoms.
- Regular cervical cancer screening is necessary even if you have no symptoms.

2. I haven’t had sex for long, do I still need cervical cancer screening?

- Cervical cancer may develop in a woman long after starting sexual activity.
- Risk of cervical cancer increases with age.
- You need regular cervical cancer screening even if you have had sexual activity only once before or long time age.
- If you have never had a cervical smear, you should have one as soon as possible.
Frequently Asked Questions

3. I have reached menopause already, do I still need cervical cancer screening?
- Menopause does not protect a woman from cervical cancer.
- As long as you have ever had sex, you should have regular cervical cancer screening even if you have reached menopause.

4. I have got human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccination, do I still need regular cervical cancer screening?
- Although HPV vaccination is effective to prevent HPV infection, but it does not protect against the HPV types not included in the vaccine, nor against existing HPV infections.
- Women who have received HPV vaccination still need regular cervical cancer screening for early detection and treatment of precancerous cell changes in cervix to prevent cervical cancer.
- In other words, HPV vaccination cannot replace regular cervical cancer screening.
Frequently Asked Questions

5. What is human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine?

- HPV vaccine, also named as Cervical Cancer Vaccine.
- Although HPV vaccination is effective to prevent HPV infection, but it does not protect against the HPV types not included in the vaccine, nor against existing HPV infections.
- Best for women who have not started sexual activity.
- Common side effects: Soreness and swelling at the injection site, fever, headache and nausea.
- Not recommended for pregnant women.
- Should seek advice from doctors.

Even having HPV vaccination done, regular cervical cancer screening is still needed.
Frequently Asked Questions

6. Where can I receive HPV vaccination?

- HPV vaccines are prescription drugs and should only be given by locally registered doctors after the individuals have been assessed to be suitable.

- For list of registered doctors in Hong Kong, please browse the website of The Medical Council of Hong Kong.

- For practicing addresses of some registered doctors, please browse the following websites of:
  
  (i) Primary Care Directory  
      - to find a family doctor

  (ii) Department of Health  
      - for the List of private hospitals registered under the Hospitals, Nursing Homes and Maternity Homes Registration Ordinance
7. What is Community Care Fund “Cervical Cancer Vaccination Pilot Scheme”? The Community Care Fund (CCF) appointed the Family Planning Association of Hong Kong (FPAHK) to launch the “Cervical Cancer Vaccination Pilot Scheme” (the Pilot Scheme) in October 2016, for 3 years, to provide cervical cancer vaccination for teenage girls from low-income families, including:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Fee</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Girls aged 9 to 18, who receive Comprehensive Social Security Assistance</td>
<td>Free</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female students aged 9 or above, who receive full grant under the School Textbook Assistance Scheme</td>
<td>Free</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Girls aged 9 to 18, who are from households benefiting from the Working Family Allowance Scheme</td>
<td>HK$100 per dose of vaccine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female students aged 9 or above, who receive half grant under the School Textbook Assistance Scheme</td>
<td>HK$100 per dose of vaccine</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The eligibility, application procedures, publicity video and other details of the Pilot Scheme are available at:

- CCF website (www.communitycarefund.hk)
- FPAHK website (www.famplan.org.hk/ccfvaccine)
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