



MYTHS VERSUS FACTS ABOUT CERVICAL CANCER SCREENING



Myth (I do not need cervical screening because)

I am healthy and do not
have any symptoms

I am no longer sexually active

I have only had 1 sexual partner

I am in a same-sex relationship

I have been through
menopause/ I am older/ I am
past my child bearing age

I have had a hysterectomy
(uterus removed)

I don't identify myself as female

I have had the HPV vaccination

Fact

(But the fact is)



A screening test can find
abnormal cells that can be treated
before they turn into cancer

If you have ever been sexually
active, regular cervical screening
is required. Any HPV transmitted
through prior sexual contact
can stay 10 to 15 years in your
body and can cause cancer.

Women can get HPV even having
only one sexual partner. There is
also a higher risk for developing
cervical cancer if your partner
has had many sexual partners.

HPV is transmitted through direct
genital skin-to-skin contact, so
even if you have only had sex with
women, you are still at risk.

If you are between 21 and
69 years and have ever been
sexually active, regular cervical
screening is required.

Talk to your healthcare provider to
find out if your cervix is still intact.

Anyone who has an intact cervix
needs regular cervical screening.

The HPV vaccine does not protect
against all types of HPV that
cause cervical cancer, so regular
cervical screening is required.

HPV= Human papillomavirus