

Cervical Cancer: Its Causes and Risk Factors

In the present times, there has been an alarming rate of mortality all over the globe; and sadly one of the most common causes of death is cancer. Cancer is a type of health disorder which involves the growth of abnormal cells that multiply uncontrollably and spreads all over the body and affects the different organs. There are actually over a hundred types of cancer, and one of the most prevalent types in women is cervical cancer.

What is Cervical Cancer?

Cervical cancer is the end result when abnormal cells grow and multiply at an overwhelming rate in the cervix. The cervix is part of the female reproductive organ in females and it is located between the uterus and the vagina.

Cervical Cancer: How it can be diagnosed

Cervical cancer can be effectively treated specially when the diagnosis of the disease has been made at an earlier stage. This can be initially diagnosed through a diagnostic examination called the Pap test or the Pap smear (**Papanicolaou Test**). This examination is actually very simple and can be done at the Gynecologists clinic and will take just about 15 minutes to get a specimen from the cervix using a vaginal speculum, a cotton applicator, a glass slide. The specimen collected is fixed on the slide with the use of a solution; the slides are air-dried and sent to the pathologist for study. When abnormal cells have been found, the patient is then subjected to further tests before the final diagnosis can be confirmed.

Cervical Cancer: Its Causes

The **Human Papilloma Virus** or the HPV is said to be the cause of cervical cancer and it can be contacted through having sexual contact with a person who is known to be infected with the virus. However, not all types of HPV viruses can cause cervical cancer; some people develop genital warts, while some will not present any symptoms. Contacting HPV is common in adults, and the infection commonly dies down on its own even without treatment. Nonetheless, developing genital warts should be considered as a warning sign because in some cases, it may progress to cervical cancer. Therefore, this condition should not be ignored and should be treated as early as possible.

Cervical Cancer: Its risk factors

There are many factors that may cause women to develop cervical cancer. On the other hand, even if a number of these risk factors are present, it doesn't necessarily mean that she will get cervical cancer. Here is the list of risk factors that may cause cervical cancer:

1. Contacting Human Papilloma Virus is a great risk and it is a sexually transmitted infection
2. Unsafe or **high-risk sexual behaviors and practices**. Having multiple sex partners poses a high risk of acquiring STDs and HPV.
3. Compromised or **impaired immune system** is also a major factor because the body fails to control the infection inside the body.

To the best of my Knowledge and research.
Please do not trust , best to consult with your doctor

4. Engaging in unhealthy lifestyle like cigarette smoking makes a person most vulnerable to developing cervical cancer and other types of cancer especially when exposed to second-hand smoke.