

HPV AND CERVICAL SCREENING

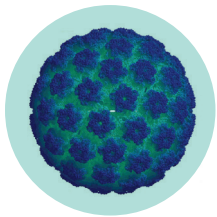


NATIONAL
CERVICAL SCREENING
PROGRAM
A Joint Australian, State and Territory Government Program



90%
of people will have HPV
in their lifetime

Occasionally HPV remains inactive in the cells and can be re-activated in later life. This is why it is important to continue to have tests even if you've been with the same partner or haven't been sexually active for many years.



There are 14 HPV types that cause **93%** of cervical cancers and all of these types are detected by the Cervical Screening Test

All Cervical Screening Tests, including self-collected tests, look for the Human Papillomavirus (HPV).

HPV is so common that most people will be infected at some stage, as genital HPV is spread through skin to skin contact during sex.

HPV usually has no symptoms and is cleared from the body naturally.

90% of people infected with HPV will clear the virus naturally within 2 years

Occasionally, HPV can cause serious disease. In fact, almost all cervical cancers are caused by HPV infections.

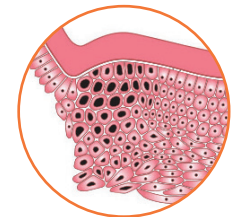
If a woman, or person with a cervix, has persistent infection with one of the HPV types that have the potential to cause cancer, cell changes may occur in the cervix.

So, if HPV is found on your Cervical Screening Test, the cells of the cervix need to be examined to see if HPV infection is also causing any cell changes.

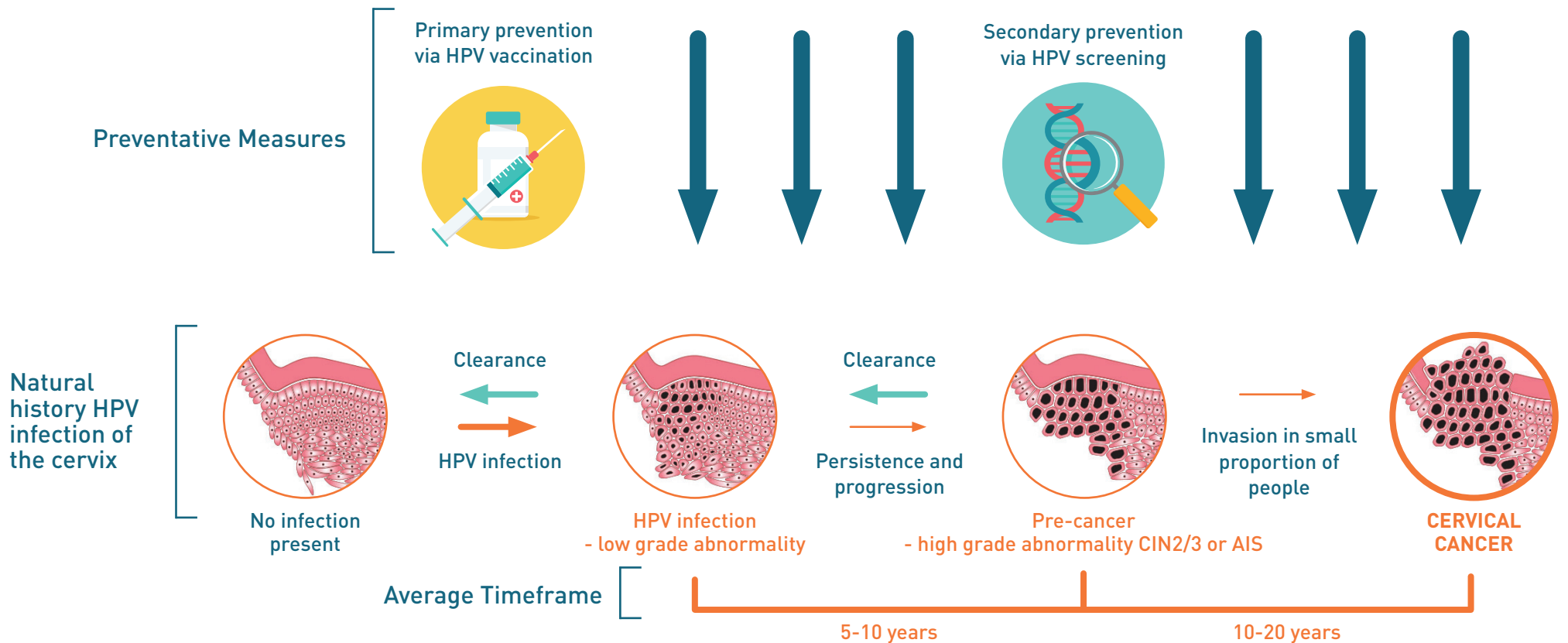
Depending on the type of HPV and the cell changes found, you might need immediate further investigation or a repeat test in 12 months.

Cervical cancer is one of the most preventable cancers. If you are a woman or person with a cervix aged 25 – 74, a Cervical Screening Test every five years can reduce your risk of getting cancer.

Cervical screening means that HPV can be found, and any cell changes can be treated, BEFORE cancer has a chance to develop.



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This illustration has been adapted from Schiffman M 2005