

# What is cervical cancer?

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Cervical cancer is **one of the most common cancers in women**, with around **604,000 women** diagnosed worldwide in 2020<sup>1</sup>

## Who might develop it?

Some risk factors for cervical cancer include<sup>2,3</sup>:



Human papillomavirus (HPV) infection



Weakened immune system



Infection with other sexually transmitted diseases



Gave birth to more than 2 children



Gave birth at a young age

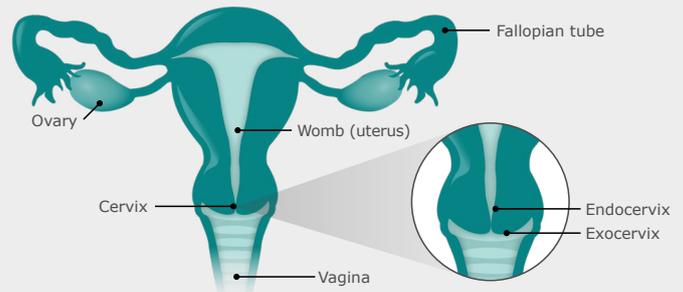


Tobacco smoking



Oral birth control use for more than 5 years

## The cervix and cancer



There are 2 main types of cervical cancer<sup>4</sup>:

1. **Squamous cell carcinoma:** cancer that usually forms where the exocervix meet the endocervix, called the transformation zone<sup>4</sup>
2. **Adenocarcinoma:** cancer that usually forms in the endocervix<sup>4</sup>

Other less common types of cervical cancer include adenosquamous carcinoma and neuroendocrine tumors as well as undifferentiated carcinoma and gastric-type adenocarcinoma<sup>5</sup>

## What symptoms are associated with cervical cancer?

Cervical cancer patients may not experience symptoms in the precancerous or early stages of the disease.<sup>6</sup> If symptoms are experienced, the **most common signs of cervical cancer** include<sup>6</sup>:

Abnormal vaginal discharge or bleeding

Periods becoming longer or heavier than usual

Pelvic pain or pain during vaginal sex

Signs that the **cervical cancer has spread** may include<sup>6</sup>:

Swollen legs

Problems urinating (potentially with blood in the urine)

Problems having a bowel movement

## How can cervical cancer be treated?

Disease management may vary depending on<sup>7</sup>:

- When the diagnosis was made (disease stage)
- The location of the cancer
- The size of the cancer
- The type of cervical cancer
- Whether the cancer has spread
- The general health status
- Plans to become pregnant

A doctor may discuss the following treatment options<sup>7,8</sup>:



Surgery



Radiation



Chemotherapy



Targeted therapy



Immunotherapy

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