Cervical Cancer

Risk factors for cervical cancer include:

- Not all HPVs cause cancer. However, two in particular—HPV types 16 and 18—are responsible for 70% of cervical cancers.
- If caught early, cervical cancer is one of the most preventable cancers, with a survival rate of more than 90%.
- Screening programmes using HPV testing can help prevent the disease in women.
- While work is ongoing to optimise the treatment of cervical cancer, it is critical that more women have access to vaccination against HPV and to screening technologies.

Almost all cases of cervical cancer are caused by the human papilloma virus (HPV). HPV is a very common virus that's spread through sexual contact.

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Around 65% of men and women will be exposed to HPV in their lifetime.

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Too many women are not attending regular screening.

However, cervical cancer is still the fourth leading cause of death in women around the world.

When changes in cervical cells progress to cancer, symptoms can develop and include:

- Abnormal bleeding or substantial change in your menstrual cycle
- Unusual vaginal discharge
- Pelvic pain
- Bleeding after intercourse

However, if cervical cancer is caught late and the disease has advanced, five-year survival rates are less than 20%.

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