



Cervical Cancer Vaccination



Cancer of the cervix (neck of the womb), or better known as cervical cancer, impacts a significant number of women globally. It develops when atypical cells in the lining of the cervix start to multiply abnormally and become cancerous.

Cervical cancer is one of the most common women cancers. However, it is now considered a potentially preventable cancer because of the availability of an effective vaccine and screening programme.

What causes cervical cancer?

The Human Papillomavirus (HPV) is a common viral infection that affects 80 per cent of sexually active women at some point in their lives. It may frequently result in genital or skin warts. High-risk subtypes are known to be the primary cause of cervical cancers.

Transmission of HPV causing cervical cancer may occur by contact through a variety of routes including sexual activity. While there is no direct treatment for HPV infections, it is usually cleared by the body's immune system. In some cases, the infection persists and leads to precancerous or cancerous changes in the cervix.



Who is eligible for the HPV vaccine?

Although the vaccines are more effective when given at a younger age between 9 and 14 years old due to better immunity, males and females up to 26 years old are encouraged to be vaccinated. Nevertheless, there remains a benefit in vaccination up to the age of 45 years old. Currently, Gardasil-9 is approved to be administered in both males and females up to 45 years old in Singapore.

It is also ideal for the vaccine to be administered before the first sexual contact. This will allow the immune system to be activated before one contracts HPV. The vaccine, however, does not protect against current HPV infections.



There are three recommended types of vaccines available: Cervarix, Gardasil and Gardasil-9.

How is the vaccine administered?

The HPV vaccine is given over two or three injections within six months.

- + Cervarix is administered at 0-, 1- and 6-months interval.
- + Gardasil and Gardasil-9 are administered at 0-, 2- and 6-months interval.
- + In healthy girls and boys between 9 and 14 years old, a 2-dose regimen of Cervarix, Gardasil or Gardasil-9 is sufficient at 0 and 6 months interval.

It is important to complete the entire regimen to gain the maximum effectiveness.

Is the vaccine safe?

The vaccine has been proven to be safe. There are only minor side effects such as headaches and soreness at the site of injection.



Our Patient Care Institutions

National University Hospital
Ng Teng Fong General Hospital &
Jurong Community Hospital
Alexandra Hospital
National University Polyclinics
Jurong Medical Centre
National University Cancer Institute, Singapore
National University Heart Centre, Singapore
National University Centre for Oral Health, Singapore
NUHS Diagnostics
NUHS Pharmacy



Scan the QR code for more information on our patient care institutions.



Scan QR code for more information on NUWoC facilities.

OneNUHS Hotline: (65) 6908 2222
OneNUHS General Enquiries: contactus@nuhs.edu.sg
OneNUHS Appointments: appointment@nuhs.edu.sg
www.nuhs.edu.sg

Take charge of your health and access health information and services across NUHS institutions.

Download the NUHS App now!



Scan to download

The information in this brochure is meant for educational purposes and should not be used as a substitute for medical diagnosis or treatment. Please seek your doctor's advice before starting any treatment, or if you have any questions related to your health, physical fitness or medical condition.

©2024, National University Hospital. All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced or shared without prior permission from National University Hospital.

Information is correct at time of printing (Sep 2024) and subject to revision without prior notice.