## Cervical cancer

Cervical cancer is a type of cancer that develops in the cervix, which is the lower part of the uterus that connects to the vagina. It is the fourth most common cancer in women worldwide and can affect women of all ages. However, it is most often diagnosed in women between 35 and years of age.

Causes of cervical cancer:

The main cause of cervical cancer is infection with human papillomavirus (HPV), a sexually transmitted virus. There are more than 100 different types of HPV, and some types can cause cervical cancer. Other factors that can increase the risk of <u>cervical cancer</u> include smoking, a weakened immune system, a family history of cervical cancer, and multiple sexual partners.

Symptoms of cervical cancer:

Cervical cancer does not necessarily cause symptoms in its early stages. As the cancer progresses, symptoms may include abnormal vaginal bleeding, pelvic pain or discomfort, pain during intercourse, and unusual vaginal discharge. It is important to note that these symptoms can be caused by other diseases, so it is important to consult a doctor to get a proper diagnosis.

Prevention and early detection of cervical cancer:

The most effective way to prevent cervical cancer is the HPV vaccine. The HPV vaccine protects against the types of HPV that cause most cases of cervical cancer, as well as against other types of HPV that can cause other types of cancer. The vaccine is recommended for males and females between 9 and 26 years of age.

Regular cervical cancer screening is also important for early detection. A Pap test is a test that checks for abnormal cells on the cervix. It is recommended that women start regular Pap tests from the age of 21. In addition, the new HPV test can also detect the presence of the virus that causes cervical cancer. Women should discuss with their healthcare provider which exams are right for them.

## Treatment of cervical cancer:

<u>Treatment of cervical cancer</u> depends on the stage of the cancer and other factors such as the woman's age and general health. Treatment options may include surgery, radiation therapy, chemotherapy, or a combination of these treatments.

In summary, cervical cancer is a common female cancer that can be prevented by vaccination and detected early by regular screening. Women should consult with their health care provider to determine appropriate screening and vaccination. If cervical cancer is diagnosed, early treatment can lead to a better outcome.

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