

Fact Sheet Cervical Cancer



- Cervical cancer is preventable through HPV vaccination & regular screening.
- It is the second leading cause of cancer-related deaths among women in SA, the 4th common cancer in women globally.
- According to the global estimates, every 2 minutes a women succumbs to this disease.
- Over 11 000 women were diagnosed, claimed almost 6 000 lives in 2022.
- Over 660 000 new cases and around 350 000 deaths globally in 2022.
- Cervical cancer is caused by persistent infection with human papillomavirus (HPV).
- Women living with HIV are 6 times more likely to develop cervical cancer compared to women without HIV.
- Cervical cancer can be cured if diagnosed at an early stage and treated promptly
- Lastly women with invasive cancer get appropriate and comprehensive treatment
- More than 4,8 million girls mostly in public schools benefitted from Human Papillomavirus Vaccination
- Government has expanded HPV vaccination programme to reach all girls in both public and private schools, including special independent schools to ensure no one is left behind.
- Millions of girls in South Africa have received the HPV vaccine without any serious side effects.
- Government has made a bold national commitment to eliminate cervical cancer as a public health problem by the year 2030 – ensure that, at least 90% of girls are fully vaccinated with HPV vaccine by age 15 years, screen 70% of women with a high-performance test by the age of 25 years and later when they turn 55 years old, ensure at least 90% of women with precancer receive timely treatment.



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