

HUMAN PAPILOMAVIRUS (HPV)



ABOUT HPV

Human Papillomavirus (HPV) is a common, easily transmittable virus that for some can cause serious health issues now and in the future.^{1,2}

For most young individuals infected with HPV, the virus goes away on its own. If the virus does not go away it can develop into genital warts, pre-cancerous lesions, or even HPV related cancers such as cervical, vulvar, vaginal, anal, and penile cancer, depending on the HPV type.^{1,2}

HPV is resistant to heat and drying and can survive on inanimate objects such as clothing and laboratory equipment that have come in contact with infected patients, although the precise survival time is unknown.³

For physical inactivation, heating to 100 degrees and UV irradiation are needed. Hypochlorite and PAA (peroxyacetic acid)-based disinfectants with 45 minute contact time were the only ones with significant effect on the virus.⁴

HPV can survive undetected on skin or under your fingernails.⁵

DID YOU KNOW ?

There are over **200 different types of HPV**, and 40 of them affect

the genital mucosal epithelial.¹

Type 16 & 18 :

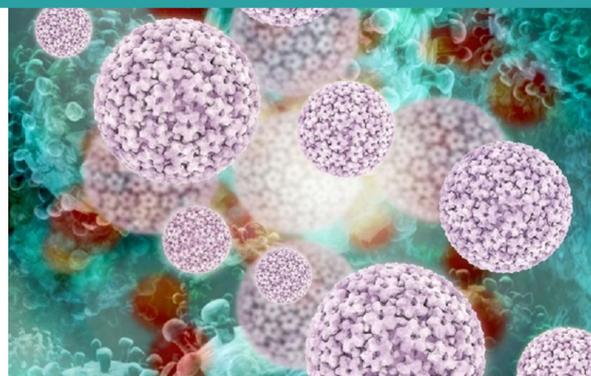
Cause 66 % of all cervical cancer cases.¹

Type 6 & 11 :

Cause 90 % of all anogenital warts cases.¹

HPV types 31, 33, 45, 52, and 58

Are responsible for 15 % of cervical cancers and 11 % of all HPV-associated cancers.¹



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DISEASES CAUSED BY HPV INFECTION

Asymptomatic Infections

HPV infection usually has no symptoms.¹ In about 90 % of people, HPV infections will be cleared within 2 years.¹ Sometimes if HPV infections are not cleared, several months to years may elapse before lesions develop and can be clinically detected.²

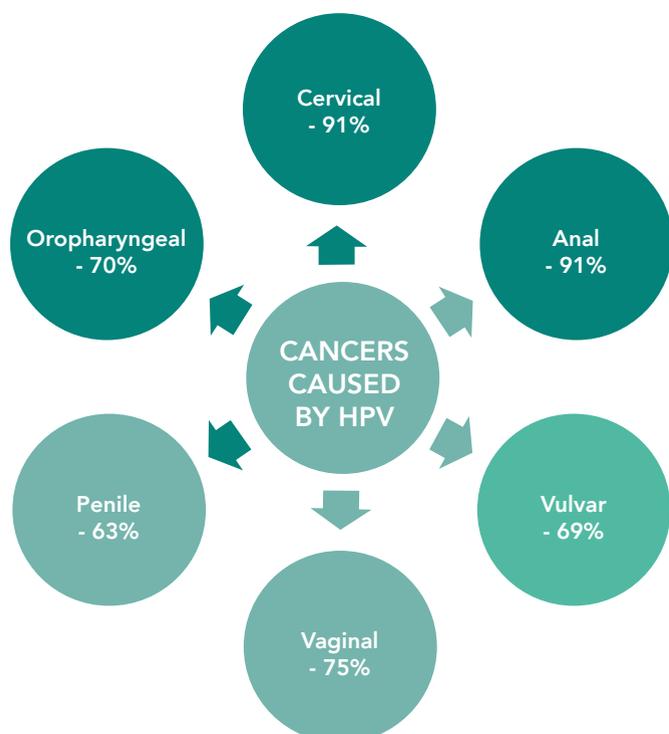
Genital Warts

- One of the most common types of sexually transmitted infections.⁶
- Genital warts affect the moist tissues of the genital area.⁶
- Small, flesh-coloured bumps or have a cauliflower-like appearance. In many cases, the warts are too small to be visible.⁶
- Not life threatening. But they can be life altering and embarrassing. Even after treatment, genital warts can come back. The recurrence rate can be as high as 25 %.⁷

Recurrent Respiratory Papillomatosis (RRP)⁸

- When types 6 and 11 cause wart type lesions in the respiratory tract this is known as Recurrent Respiratory Papillomatosis (RRP).

Cancers caused by HPV.¹



PREVENTION

HPV transmission can be reduced, but not eliminated, with consistent and correct use of physical barriers e.g., condoms.¹

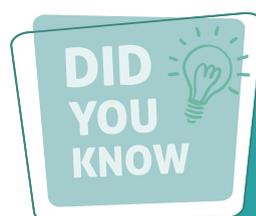
VACCINATION:

HPV vaccination provides strong protection against new HPV infections.⁹

Vaccination is prevention and does not cure an infection once you have it. The HPV vaccine is not used to treat HPV infections or diseases caused by HPV.⁹

HPV vaccine is generally well-tolerated. Safety has been well-established from prelicensure trials and postlicensure monitoring and evaluation.¹

The HPV vaccine is given in multiple doses depending on recipients age.¹⁰



HPV is transmitted through intimate, skin-to-skin contact with an HPV infected person. The most common way of transmission is during vaginal, penile, anal, or oral sex. Rarely, vertical transmission of HPV from an infected mother to her infant can result in a condition called juvenile-onset recurrent respiratory papillomatosis.¹

Please note: This is an education information leaflet only and should not be used for diagnosis. For more information on Human Papillomavirus, consult your healthcare professional.

References

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