






PAP & HPV TESTING *for* CERVICAL HEALTH

-  **RECOMMEND** a Pap smear every 3 years for Native American women ages 21-65 or co-testing (Pap smear + HPV testing) every 5 years for women ages 30-65.
-  **STRESS** the importance of preventing cervical cancer by regular screening.
-  **ENCOURAGE** your patients to follow-up on abnormal findings in a timely fashion.

THE ISSUE

- Cervical cancer is one of the few cancer types that is preventable.
- More than half (56%) of Native American women in New Mexico who develop cervical cancer are diagnosed at regional or distant stages. (Source: NCI SEER Surveillance, Epidemiology, and End Results Program)
- Human papillomavirus (HPV) infection is associated with most cases of cervical cancer.

CLINICAL RECOMMENDATIONS

- The U.S. Preventive Service Task Force (USPSTF) recommends a Pap smear every 3 years for women ages 21-65 or co-testing with both a Pap smear and HPV test every 5 years for women ages 30-65.
- The USPSTF recommends against screening for cervical cancer in women younger than age 21 years.
- The USPSTF recommends against screening for cervical cancer in women older than age 65 years who have had adequate prior screening.
- The above recommendations apply to all women who have a cervix, regardless of sexual history.

CURRENT PRACTICES

- In 2010, 71% of Native American women in the Indian Health Service Albuquerque Area had a documented Pap smear within the past three years. (Source: IHS GPRA Report 2010)
- This rate trails the Healthy People 2020 target (93%) for cervical cancer screening for women age 21-64.



www.aastec.net

REFERENCE: <http://www.uspreventiveservicestaskforce.org/recommendations.htm>

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