

All personal data collected are subject to the rules on confidentiality and data protection. For those who need it, the day of the test a certificate can be issued to justify the absence from work. For more information or to make an appointment, call the toll-free hotline number of your local health authority.

Per prenotare gli esami di screening scansionare il QR code

prenotascreening.regione.lazio.it



www.salutelazio.it

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FREE FOR WOMEN AGES
25 TO 64 YEARS



Why do you receive an invitation from your local health authority?

To remind women that prevention of cancer is possible through two simple tests: the Pap test (every three years between 25 to 29 years old) and HPV HR (every five years from 30 to 64 years old), which can detect lesions of the uterine cervix at an early stage. The objective is to detect, if any, the initial lesions that generally do not give any symptoms, in order to cure them and avoid their possible evolution into carcinoma. The Screening Program is offered free of charge, from Pap tests and HPV tests to further examinations and successive treatment if necessary. If you never received an invitation from your local health authority or you have never joined the program, you can call the toll-free hotline number to book an appointment.

What is a Pap test?

A sample specimen of some superficial cells of the uterine cervix, taken with a spatula, to evaluate any modifications of the tissue. It is carried out every three years in the age range from 25 to 29 years old.

What is the HPV test?

A sample specimen of some superficial cells of the uterine cervix, taken with a spatula, to detect any presence of the Papilloma virus. HPV (also called DNA HPV test) is carried out every five years for women ages 30 to 64 years.

Why two different tests?

Scientific research has shown that the HPV test will find more lesions than the Pap test. This accuracy has been widely demonstrated in tests conducted for women aged between 30 and 64 years old. We know that infection with HPV is very high up to 25 years of age and then spontaneously lower in 80% of women. If it persists after the age of 30, it has been shown that it can cause precancerous lesions in the cervix. In younger women within screening age (25-29 years), the HPV test finds many infections that will heal on their own, with a high likelihood of unnecessary tests and treatments. To avoid this, for women between 25 and 29 years of age, the Pap test remains the primary and most effective test.

Is it painful?

No, in some women the necessary opening with the speculum can be uncomfortable for a few minutes.

After taking the test?

If the result is normal, the Screening Center will send a communication of the negative result directly to your home through a letter, and they will send a new invitation to repeat the screening examination every 3 or 5 years depending on your age. If the test results are positive and further diagnostic investigations are needed, the patient will be contacted by telephone for an invitation to undergo a colposcopy for a thorough check of the uterine cervix, still free of charge. Any further examination and successive treatment,

if necessary, are still booked and provided directly and free of charge by the local health authority.

Can I be confident?

The tests are analysed at a single Cytology Center, with expertise in bio-molecular analysis, which examines at least 15,000 Pap and at least 500 HPV-DNA tests per year. All procedures follow the national and European guidelines and are subjected to quality controls.

Summary...

Cervical cancer is the fifth most common cancer in women under 50 years of age in Italy (AIOM, 2020). It is good to repeat the Pap test regularly every three years, from 25 to 29 years of age and the HPV test every five years, from ages between 30 to 64 years old, even if you're healthy.

