

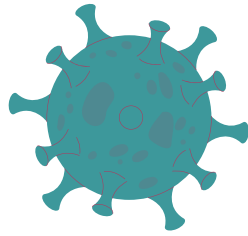
# CERVICAL CANCER

Cervical cancer starts in the cervix - the narrow connection from the uterus to the vagina

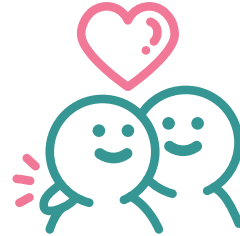
## Did you know?

- Over 95% of all cervical cancer cases are due to HPV infection
- Cervical cancer is preventable. Over 93% of cases could be prevented through vaccination and regular screening

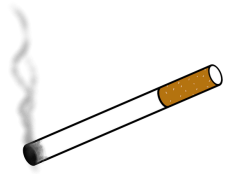
What are some of the **RISK FACTORS** for developing cervical cancer?



**Human Papilloma Virus (HPV)** infection is the main cause of cervical cancer



Some **sexual behaviors** such as having multiple partners can increase exposure to HPV



Women who **smoke** are **twice** as likely to get cervical cancer as those who don't smoke

Some **important things** to know about cervical cancer?



Cervical cancer is the **4th most common** gynecological cancer, often diagnosed under the age of 50



**Screening save lives.** Five-year survival rate for cervical cancer is **93%** when found **early**, compared to 16% for late stages



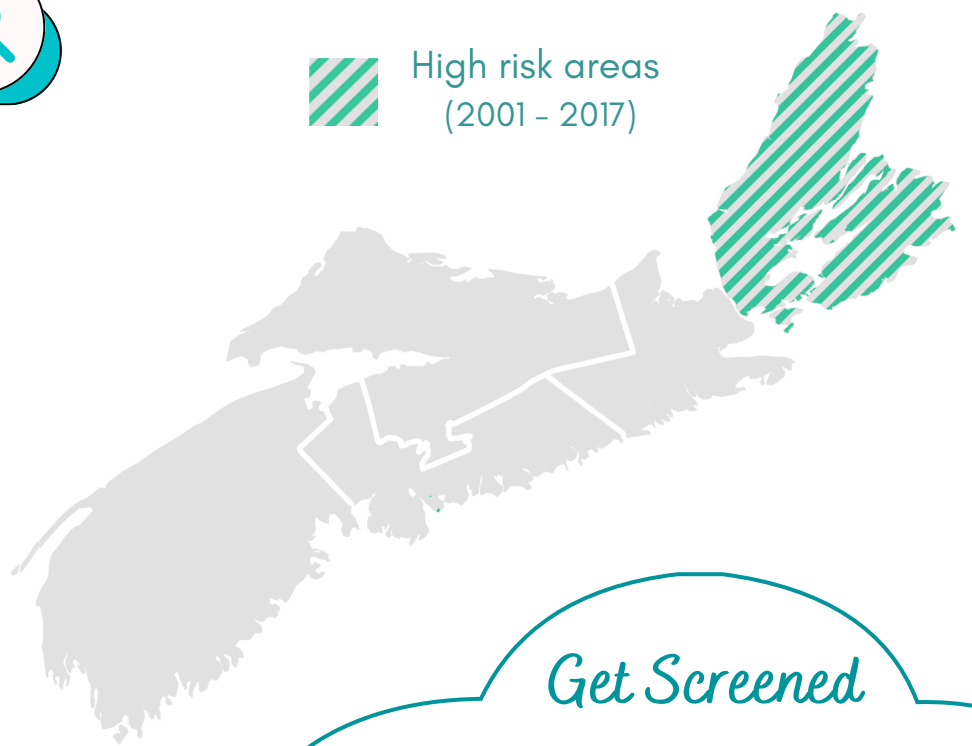
While rates continue to drop across the country, Canada plans to **eliminate cervical cancer by 2040** through improved HPV vaccination and HPV screening

## Cervical cancer in Nova Scotia



- Nova Scotia has the **lowest rate** of cervical cancer in Canada
- In Nova Scotia, the rate of cervical cancer has dropped 2.1% each year, over the past four decades
- Cervical cancer occurs across Nova Scotia. However, a persistently higher rate is seen in **Cape Breton Island**
- Nova Scotia can expect to diagnose about 315 cases of cervical cancer in the next 10 years - cases that could be prevented through vaccination and regular screening

 High risk areas (2001 - 2017)



## Get Screened

- **Early detection** is important for survival of cervical cancer
- **Screening** can catch cervical cancer early when it is easier to treat
- In Nova Scotia, regular screening is recommended starting at age 25 or within three years of becoming sexually active - whichever comes later

For questions about screening, contact the **Cervical Cancer Prevention Program** (1-888-480-8588)

**REDUCE YOUR RISK** of developing cervical cancer



Get your HPV vaccination up to date



Choose to be smoke-free  
Call 811 (Tobacco-Free NS) for help to stop smoking



Get screened regularly (Pap test)