



FROM GUIDELINES TO PRACTICE:

NEW INSIGHTS IN

**CERVICAL CANCER
SCREENING**

CURRENT CERVICAL CANCER SCREENING GUIDELINES

- The American Cancer Society (ACS), American Society for Colposcopy and Cervical Pathology (ASCCP), and American Society for Clinical Pathology (ASCP) recommend the following¹:
 - o Women should begin cervical cancer screening at 21 years of age
 - o Women 21 to 29 years old should be screened with Pap testing alone every 3 years
 - o Women age 30 to 65 years should be screened with Pap testing plus human papillomavirus (HPV) testing (co-testing) every 5 years or Pap testing alone every 3 years
 - o Women with adequate negative prior screening should discontinue screening after age 65
- While interim guidance suggesting intervals for use of screening with HPV alone has been published, primary HPV screening, also referred to as HPV alone* in this document, is not currently recommended by major societies, as 2015 guidelines from the American College of Physicians include only Pap testing and co-testing as recommended strategies^{2,3}

*A positive HPV screening result may lead to further evaluation with cytology and/or colposcopy.

Pap plus HPV testing is the preferred cervical cancer screening method for women 30 to 65 years old



AGE GROUP	RECOMMENDATIONS
<21 Years	No routine speculum exam or cytology regardless of age of onset of intercourse or other risk factors.
21–29 Years	Screening with cytology alone every 3 years.
30–65 Years	Co-testing every 5 years (preferred), or cytology alone every 3 years (acceptable).
>65 Years	Discontinue screening after age 65 following adequate negative prior screening. However, women with a history of cervical intraepithelial neoplasia grade 2 or worse diagnosis should continue screening for at least 20 years.

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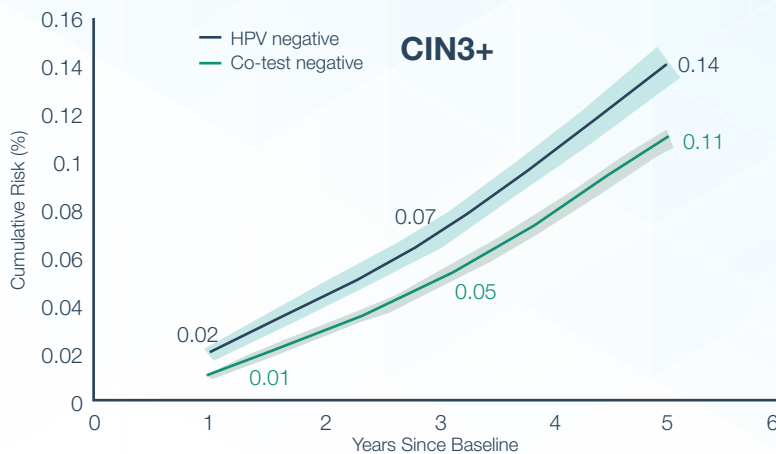
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3. Sawaya GF, et al. *Ann Intern Med.* 2015;162(12):851-9.

RECOMMENDATION: Screening with Pap Plus HPV Together (Co-testing) Should Remain the Preferred Method of Screening for Women 30 to 65 Years of Age

- Co-testing detects more precancerous lesions (cervical intraepithelial neoplasia and worse, CIN3+) than screening with HPV alone
- In a study of more than a million women, the risk of developing CIN3+ within 3 years of screening was 29% lower in women who were co-test negative vs women who tested HPV negative (Figure A)¹
- In 7 European studies, CIN3+ was later detected in 24% fewer women who were co-test negative compared with women who tested negative for HPV at baseline screening over a 6-year follow-up period²

Pap plus HPV testing together is more sensitive for detecting precancerous lesions than screening with HPV alone¹

A. Risk of women developing CIN3+ following screening with HPV alone vs co-testing at 1-, 3-, and 5-year intervals¹



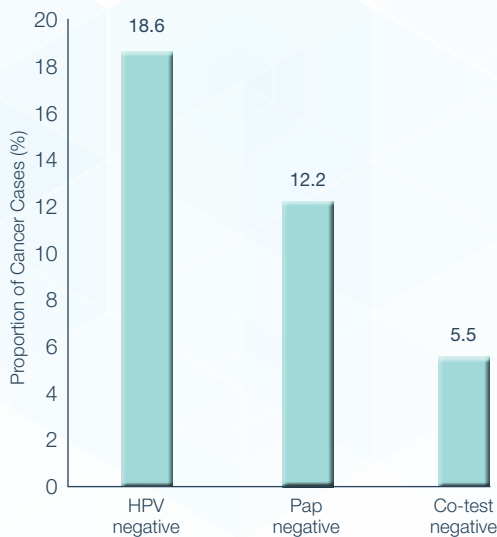
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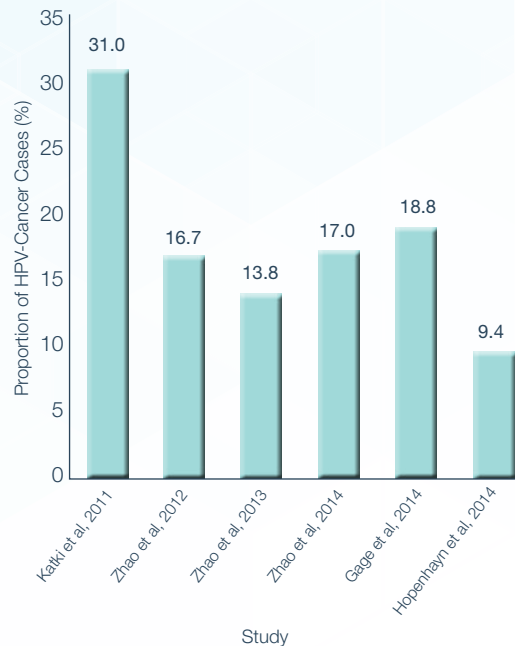
Screening with Pap Plus HPV Together (Co-testing) Provides Greater Reassurance against Cervical Cancer than Screening with HPV Alone

- Studies have consistently shown that screening with HPV alone misses more cases of cervical cancer than screening with co-testing¹⁻⁷
- A study of over a million women in the Kaiser Permanente Health System found that, among 405 cases of cervical cancer detected during the study, 18.8% were HPV negative compared with 12.3% that were co-test negative¹
- Investigation of screening results from over 250,000 women in the Quest Diagnostics Health Trends study found that, among 526 women with cancer, 18.6% tested negative for HPV less than 1 year prior to cancer detection, while only 5.5% were co-test negative less than 1 year before diagnosis (Figure A)²
- Several studies have reported similar results, with HPV testing alone failing to detect between 9% and 31% of cervical cancer cases (Figure B)^{1,3-7}

A. Number of cases of cervical cancer with various screening results <1 year prior to diagnosis.² Graph adapted from Blatt et al.²



B. Summary of cervical cancer cases that tested negative for HPV over several recent studies^{1, 3-7}



The clinical studies represented within these sources were conducted using different study designs and various assays. Products included hc2, cob as 4800, ThinPrep®, SurePath, Linear Array, INNO-LiPA Genotype test.

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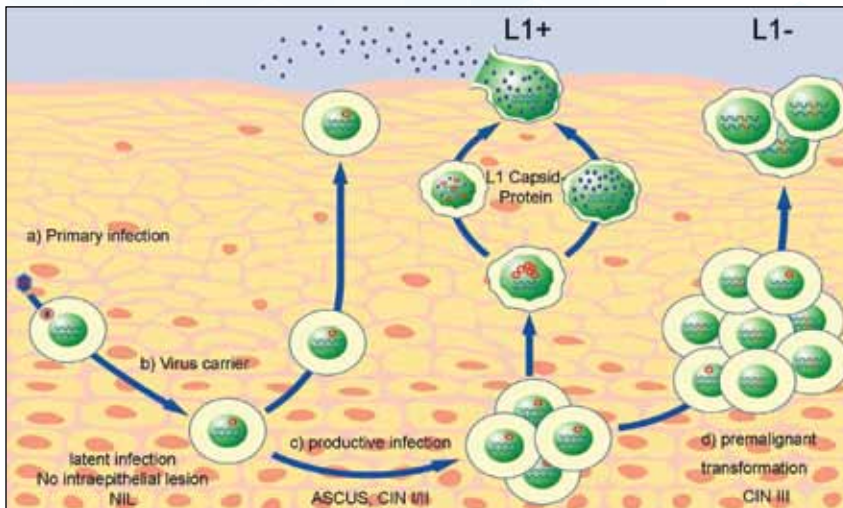
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Additional Benefits of Pap Testing

- In the Quest Diagnostics Health Trends study, among 169 adenocarcinomas detected, 26.6% were HPV negative less than one year prior to diagnosis compared with 8.3% that were co-test negative¹
- Levels of HPV L1 DNA decrease as cancer progresses, suggesting that advanced cervical diseases could be missed with an L1 DNA HPV test (Figure A)²

Detecting adenocarcinoma and providing additional reassurance are among the additional benefits conferred by **Pap plus HPV testing together**^{1,2}

A. Schematic of HPV L1 deletion. Figure from Hilfrich³



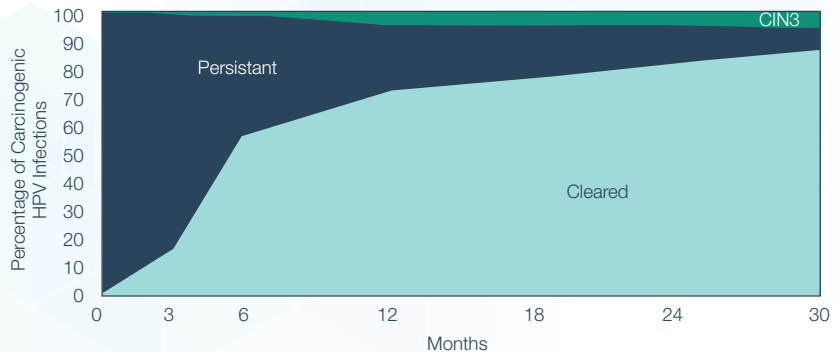
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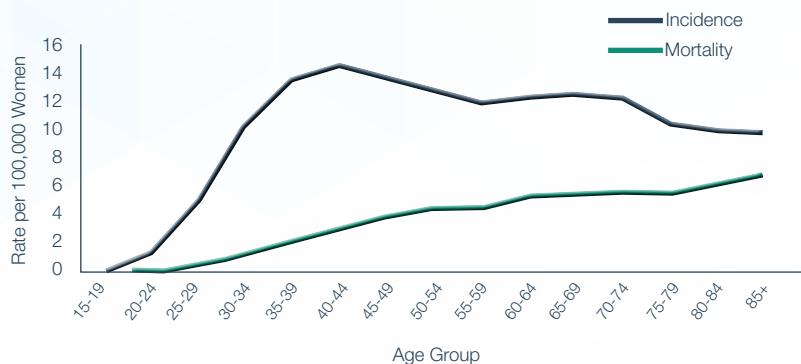
Recommendation: Pap Testing Every 3 Years Should Remain the Primary Screening Strategy for Women 21 to 29 Years of Age

- Cervical cancer is associated with persistent HPV infections. In young women who have recently become sexually active, the rate of HPV infection is high, but the large majority of those infections clear on their own (Figure A)²
- Women under age 30 are unlikely to develop cervical cancer (Figure B),³ and overtreatment of these women may represent a clinical concern because treatment of cervical lesions can be associated with pregnancy complications such as preterm birth^{4,5}
- Positive HPV results have been associated with increased anxiety shortly after testing⁶ and can result in women reporting worse feelings about their previous and future sexual relationships⁷
- The New Technologies for Cervical Cancer study found that screening with HPV alone resulted in overdiagnosis of cervical lesions in women 25 to 34 years old⁸
- In 2012, the ACS, ASCCP, and ASCP recommended that, “because of the high prevalence of HPV in women under the age of 30, HPV testing should not be used to screen women in this age group due to the potential harms”⁹

A. Clearance of high-risk HPV infections over 30 months in women aged 21 to 29 years¹



B. Cancer incidence and mortality per 100,000 women by age in the United States¹⁰



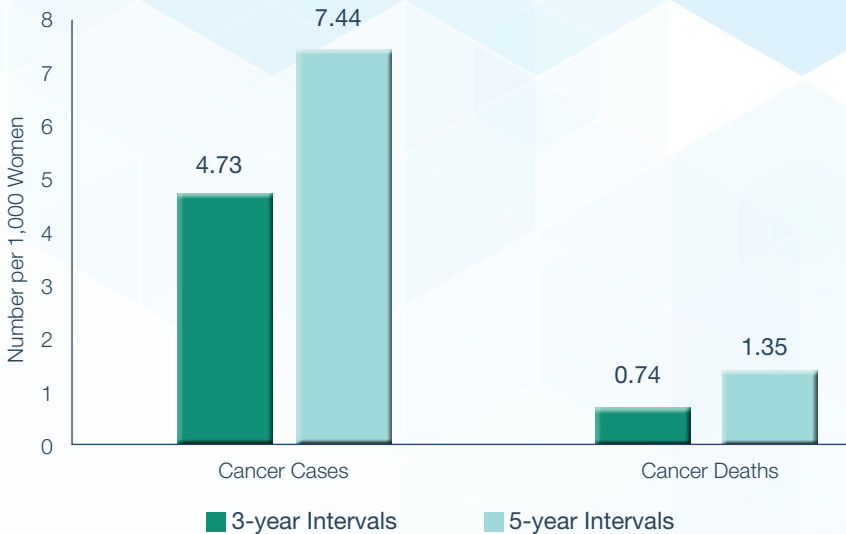
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Recommendation: The Interval for Screening Women Over 30 with Pap Plus HPV Together (Co-testing) Should be Changed from 5 Years to 3 Years

- A model of the outcomes associated with various cervical cancer screening strategies published by the United States Preventative Services Task Force in 2013 found that lengthened screening intervals may result in appreciable increases in cervical cancer cases¹
- Lengthening screening intervals from 3 years to 5 years is estimated to double cervical cancer cases (Figure A), with an additional 1/369 women in the United States being diagnosed with cervical cancer using a 5-year interval^{1,2}

A. Estimated cancer cases and deaths per 1,000 women over a lifetime for a screening strategy beginning with Pap testing every 3 years at age 21, then co-testing at 3- vs 5-year intervals beginning at age 30²



Lengthening screening intervals from 3 to 5 years may substantially increase cervical cancer cases and deaths¹⁻³

SCREENING INTERVALS

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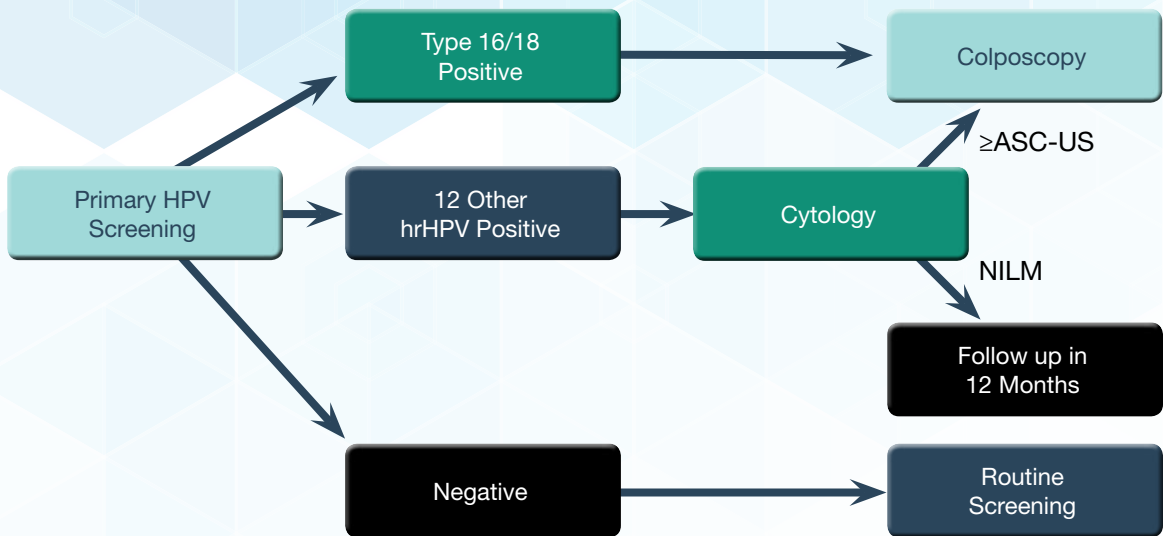
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COMMON PERCEPTIONS

“SCREENING WITH HPV ALONE IS EASIER”

- The screening algorithm put forth by the interim guidance document is complicated, confusing, and invites more risk of disease than screening with Pap plus HPV together (Figure A)¹

A. Screening algorithm for screening with HPV alone



Current interim guidance for **screening with HPV alone** is complex and adherence may be a challenge

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COMMON PERCEPTIONS

“PATIENTS WILL BE UNAFFECTED BY ADDITIONAL CHANGES IN CERVICAL CANCER SCREENING”

Screening with HPV Alone and Extended Screening Intervals Cause Patient Anxiety

- A survey of women’s perceptions of cervical screening practices found that the majority of women screened reported that they would prefer to continue to receive Pap testing, with approximately 40% reporting that they would be anxious if they received screening with HPV alone¹
- Another study found that 68.4% of women surveyed were willing to attend cervical screening every 3 years, while only 25.2% were willing to adopt a 5-year screening interval²
 - o The stigma surrounding a positive HPV test has been found to affect anxiety, but cancer risk and the potential for cervical lesions are of greater concern^{3,4}
 - o There is some evidence that HPV testing does not increase women’s anxiety when it is combined with Pap testing⁵



Women may be resistant to changes in screening intervals and methodology associated with changes in cervical screening technology

PERCEPTIONS

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COMMON PERCEPTIONS “SCREENING WITH HPV ALONE IS CHEAPER”

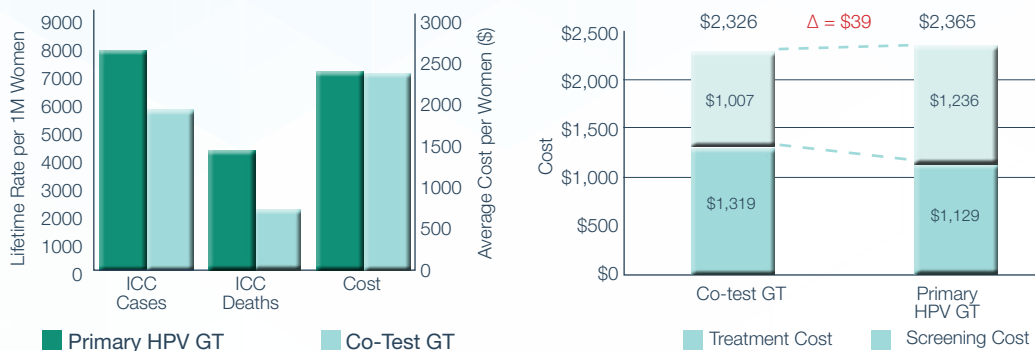
One Screening Test is not more Cost-Effective than Two

- Several factors affect the relative costs of screening with HPV alone vs with Pap plus HPV together (co-testing):
 - o Test performance (sensitivity/specificity)
 - o Test costs
 - o Treatment costs
- A cost-effectiveness model comparing different cervical screening strategies found that an HPV-alone screening strategy that included genotyping for 2 high-risk strains, HPV 16/18, reduced costs with similar effectiveness to a co-testing strategy that did not include genotyping for HPV 16/18¹
- Further investigation of the cost-effectiveness of co-testing with HPV 16/18 genotyping compared with screening with HPV with HPV 16/18 genotyping alone found that co-testing provided greater clinical benefit at similar costs (Figure A)²

Model assumptions:

- Co-testing at 3 years vs 5 years
- Screening with an mRNA-based HPV test and liquid-based cytology, compared to HPV alone screening with a DNA-based test

A. Lifetime cervical cancer incidence and mortality, and average cost per woman, for co-testing with HPV 16/18 genotyping vs screening with HPV alone with HPV 16/18 genotyping.²



This data is intended for insurers.

1M: 1 million — HPV: Human papillomavirus —

ICC: Invasive Cervical Cancer

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CERVICAL CANCER SCREENING: THE FUTURE

Summary of Recommendations

- **Maintain Pap plus HPV together (co-testing)** as the preferred method for cervical cancer screening in women ≥ 30 years old
- **Change the interval for co-testing** women ≥ 30 years old from every 5 years to every 3 years
- **Recommend that women 21 years of age** begin cervical cancer screening with Pap testing every 3 years and not begin HPV screening until ≥ 30 years old

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