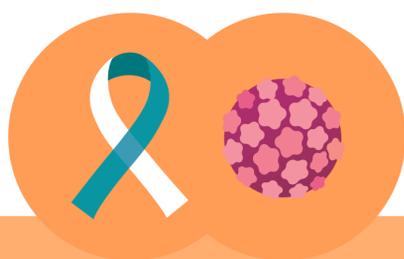


# Talking With a Patient About HPV

Screening, vaccination and conversation are crucial to preventing HPV and cervical cancer



When discussing cervical cancer prevention, it is important to discuss HPV's role in causing cervical cancer and why we screen for HPV infection.

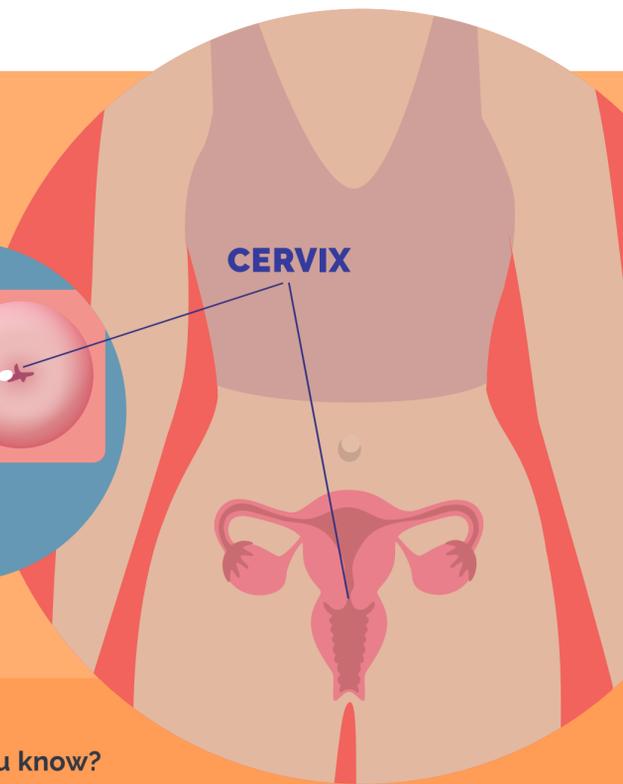
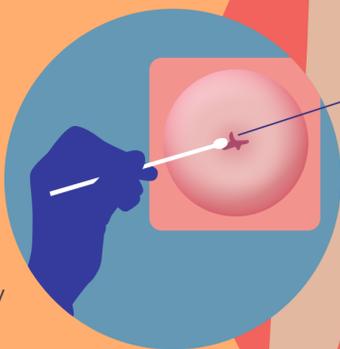
## During the appointment

### Begin with an anatomy lesson

Explain the location and function of the cervix.

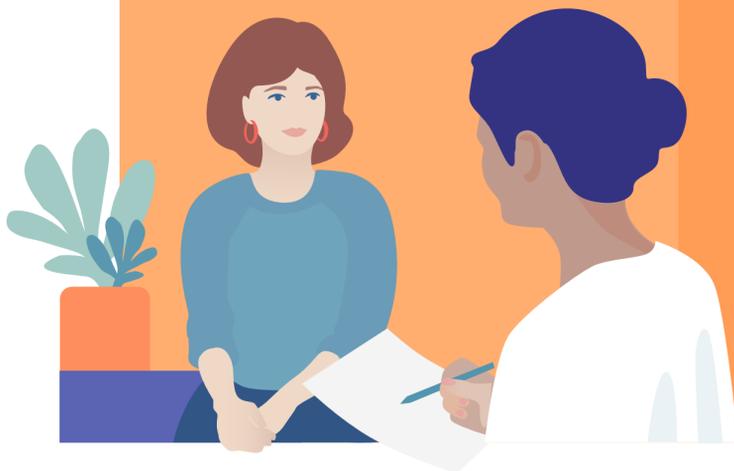
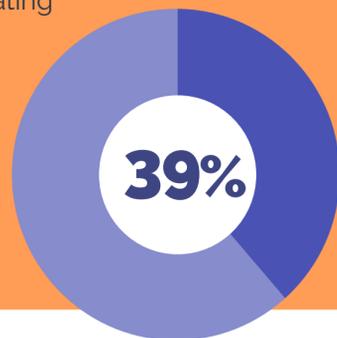
### Explain the difference between a pelvic exam, a Pap test and an HPV test

Although people with a cervix may have had one or more pelvic exams, Pap tests and HPV tests in their lifetime, they don't always know what these exams and tests are looking for.



### Did you know?

In one research study, only **39%** of women knew what the HPV test was, demonstrating the need for HCPs to educate their patients about cervical cancer screening and different types of testing.



## Getting test results

### Communicate what test results mean — and what they don't mean.

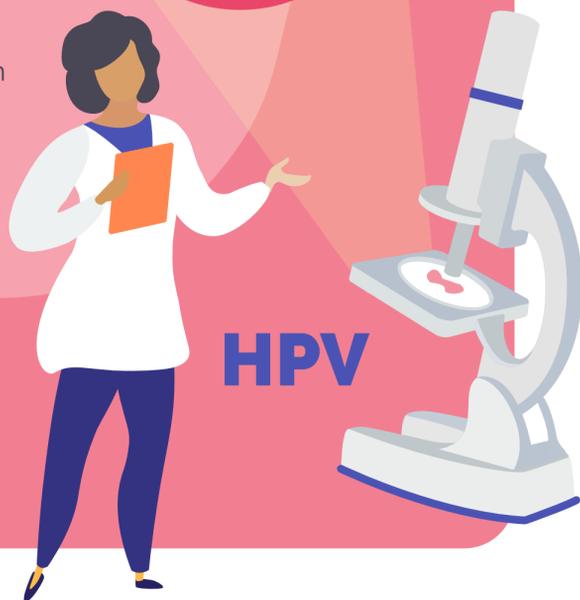
Patients need to know that follow-up testing may be needed with an abnormal Pap test or a positive HPV test.

Remind them that these results don't necessarily mean they will develop cervical cancer.

### Reassure patients that having HPV doesn't mean their partner cheated.

Tell patients that there's no way to know how someone has had HPV or which partner passed it to the other.

Explain to patients that HPV can stay in your body for long periods of time with no symptoms.



## Focusing on HPV vaccination

### Encourage parents and guardians to vaccinate their children

- Remind parents that the HPV vaccine is an effective tool in preventing cancer
- Explain that the HPV vaccine is most effective if given at younger ages, before teens are sexually active



### Did you know?

Studies show that a patient who receives a recommendation from an HCP is **4 to 5x more likely** to receive the HPV vaccine.

