



Global Cervical Cancer Elimination Forum

[Source: DTE](#)

The first ever **Global Cervical Cancer Elimination Forum (GCF)** in Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, secured nearly USD 600 million in funding from the [World Bank](#), Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, and UNICEF.

- The funds will be utilised **to enhance global access to vaccination**, screening and treatment for [cervical cancer](#).
- The Forum aims to catalyse governments, donors, civil society, and others to commit to cervical cancer elimination and galvanize the global community.
- Cervical cancer is a cancer that starts in the **cervix**, which is the lower end of the uterus that connects it to the vagina. It's caused by a **long-lasting (human papillomavirus) HPV infection**, which is a common virus transmitted through sexual contact.
 - Cervical cancer is **ranked as the fourth most prevalent cancer** among women globally.
 - Despite available tools for prevention and elimination, it claims a **woman's life every 2 minutes globally**, with over **90% of cervical cancer deaths** in 2022 occurring in **low- and middle-income nations**.
- [WHO's Global Strategy for Cervical Cancer Elimination](#), launched in November 2020, targets, by 2030:
 - 90% of girls vaccinated against HPV by age 15
 - 70% of women screened with a high-performance test by ages 35 and 45
 - 90% of women with cervical disease receive treatment.
- Indian Government intends to initiate a [three-phase vaccination drive against human papillomavirus \(HPV\) for girls aged 9-14](#), aiming to mitigate the **risk of cervical cancer**.

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PREVENTING CERVICAL CANCER



FACTS ABOUT CERVICAL CANCER:



Human Papillomavirus (HPV) is the main cause of cervical cancer



More than 90% of cervical cancer cases can be prevented by regular cervical screening



99.8% of UK cervical cancer cases are preventable

WHAT ARE THE SYMPTOMS OF CERVICAL CANCER?

- Unscheduled bleeding (during or after sex, between periods)
- Post-menopausal bleeding
- Unusual discharge
- Pain or discomfort during sex
- Lower back or pelvic pain



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VS

FACT

Cervical screening checks for cervical cancer



Cervical screenings are used to check the health of your cervix and identify cell changes.

If your cervical screening comes back abnormal, you have cervical cancer.



An abnormal test result means changes to the cervical cells, which could potentially cause cancer in the future.

Older women do not need to undergo cervical screenings.



Women aged 50-64 should undergo a cervical screening every 5 years.

Smoking is not linked to cervical cancer.



Around 20% of cervical cancers in the UK are linked to smoking.

CONCLUSION:

If you are aged between 25-64, it is crucial to attend all your scheduled cervical screenings to detect any cervical cell changes early on and get the necessary treatment.

Visiting your GP or gynaecologist at the earliest sign of any symptoms is also vital in detecting cervical changes early and preventing cervical cancer.

London Women's Centre specialises in the treatment of abnormal cervical screening results (dyskaryosis). For more information, please visit



Read more: [Expanding Cervical Cancer Prevention Initiatives](#), [HPV Vaccine for Cervical Cancer](#)

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