

Do you want to know more about HPV and cervical cancer?

Cervical cancer is a serious disease. Yearly around 350 women are diagnosed with cervical cancer. The risk of developing cervical cancer is lowest among women who attend regular cervical cancer screening.

Cervical cancer is caused by Human Papillomavirus (HPV). HPV is a virus that is transmitted through sexual contact. More than 100 HPV-virus types have been discovered, but only 13 types can cause cervical cancer. Almost every adult has been infected with HPV at some point in their lifetime. You rarely notice when you are infected with HPV, as the infection does not cause any symptoms. Our body fights off the HPV infection like when infected with the common cold, however in some women the infection does not clear on its own. A chronic infection with HPV can cause cervical cellular changes which can develop into cervical cancer. It takes several years from infection with HPV until the infection potentially develops into cervical cancer. In Denmark cervical cancer is most common among younger women in the age group 35-44, but every woman is at risk.

It is possible to prevent cervical cancer through vaccination against HPV and by attending cervical cancer screening.