

# HPV VACCINATION

Protection Against Cervical Cancer | Medisave Claimable

## What is HPV?

There are over 100 sub-types of the Human Papilloma Virus, grouped into high-risk types (may cause cancer) and low-risk types (non-cancer causing).

Types 16 & 18 are responsible for 70% of cervical cancers.

## Who is at risk?

You are at increase risk of getting a HPV infection if: (i) you have had multiple sexual partners, (ii) your partner has had multiple sexual contacts, (iii) you have a weakened immune system

## How it is transmitted

HPV infection is common in both men and women.

- It can be transmitted through genital skin-to-skin contact during sexual activity.
- A condom does not offer 100% protection
- It cannot be passed by sitting on toilet seats

## Can it be treated?

Whilst there is no cure for the virus, there are treatments available for the conditions they cause.



## Your Protection Against Cervical Cancer

In Singapore, cervical cancer is the 10th most common cancer affecting women. It can affect women of **ALL** ages, and like most cancers, it shows **NO** signs or symptoms in the early stages.

The **GOOD NEWS** is that alongside Pap smear screening, HPV vaccination is now available. It protects you against HPV sub-types 16 & 18, which account for about 70% of cervical cancer cases. This means that **HPV vaccination lowers your cervical cancer risk by 70%!**

## Who Should Be Vaccinated?

- Females aged 9 to 26 years old
- Most effective if given before 1st sexual exposure
- Females who are already sexually active may still benefit, as they may not have been exposed to HPV sub-types covered by the vaccine. Speak to your doctor about your suitability.