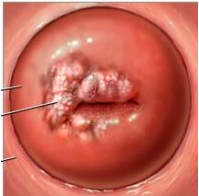


Abnormal Pap Smear

What is it?

- **Abnormal Pap Smear**– does not always indicate cervical cancer, most cases of abnormal pap smear results so not indicate cancer just means farther diagnostic procedures in 3 to 6 months or colposcopy; slightly abnormal changes of your cervix that may or may not need treatment



- **Normal Pap Smear**- is not a guarantee of no cancer; cancer is not detected in the uterus, fallopian tubes, or ovaries
- **Pap Smear**- is where some cells are scraped or brushed off the cervix and prepared on a slide to be examined under a microscope; purpose of the test is to detect changes that may lead to cervical cancer
- **Class 1**- normal- no treatment required
- **Class 2**- atypical and may be caused by an infection or inflammation; may need another pap smear or a colposcopy
- **Class 3**- dysplasia or pre-cancerous, low grade; colposcopy, possible farther treatment
- **Class 4**- high grade dysplasia or CIC/cancer but non-invasive; colposcopy with possible cone biopsy or leep procedure
- **Class 5**- cancer and is invasive, coloposcopy to determine severity and recommended treatment
- **Colposcopy**- is a procedure that allows your health care professional to closely examine abnormal cells on your cervix



Facts:

- **Caused by**- infection, inflammation, yeast infections, herpes, trichomonas, recent sexual activity, use of vaginal preparations, HPV/human papilloma virus/genital warts,
- **60%**- of sexually active women may carry the HPV virus on their cervix, genital area or skin and are completely unaware of it

What can I do?

- **See your Health Care Provider**- for more information
 - **Screening**- all women 18 and older need annual pap smear (some every 6 months), the only screening test for cancer (caused a decrease in occurrences and deaths from cancer); pap smear is a screening tool that requires more diagnostic testing if abnormal

