

Helping you with hedis® ...



Cervical Cancer Screening

Cervical Cancer Screening looks for women 21-64 years of age who received one or more Pap tests to screen for cervical cancer.

WHAT YOUR PROVIDER OFFICE NEEDS TO KNOW

If HealthPlus does not receive a claim for at least one cervical cancer screening within a three year period for each of your female members 24-64 years of age, you will receive notification via the Action Report that a Pap test is due.

Women who have had a “total”, “complete” or “radical” hysterectomy can be excluded as long as evidence exists that the member has no residual cervix.

HEDIS® 2010 has added two ICD-9-CM Diagnosis codes acceptable for use when coding a PE on a woman post total hysterectomy:

- V88.01 Acquired absence of both cervix & uterus
- V88.03 Acquired absence of cervix with remaining uterus

FACTS

- The human papillomavirus (HPV) causes over 99% of all cervical cancers
- Over half the women who develop cervical cancer have never had a Pap test

“HOW CAN I IMPROVE MY HEDIS® SCORES?”

Most HEDIS® measurements use claims information (“administrative data”) for evaluating HEDIS® performance. Diagnoses and/or procedure codes are often used. *If a service is not billed or submitted correctly, the service may not be captured for HEDIS® nor reflected in performance scores.*

- Do at least one Pap cervical cancer screening on all eligible members every 1-3 years.
- Don’t assume a Pap test was done at routine GYN visit. Ask your patient specifically about their exam and request a copy of the report.
- Complete the Action Report and fax it back to HealthPlus with the last date of service and/or history of total hysterectomy.
- Use the Action Report as a tool to identify and recall women who are in need of Pap screening.

PATIENT TIPS

- Sexually active females should have a Pap test done every 1 to 3 years.
- The Pap test is simple and painless and done in a clinic or doctor’s office setting.
- Condom use and limiting the number of sexual partners can protect against HPV
- Pap tests can detect abnormal cells (HPV) before they become cancer cells
- Cervical cancer can be prevented and cured when it is found early
- Reminder/recall systems work. Consider one for your office.

“WHY IS IT THAT PATIENTS CONTINUE TO SHOW UP ON MY ACTION REPORT AFTER I REPORT THAT THEY HAD A HYSTERECTOMY?”

It could be that HealthPlus did not receive documentation that indicated the member had a **total** hysterectomy. HEDIS will not accept “hysterectomy” without documentation or coding to support exclusionary evidence the member has no residual cervix. If you ever have any questions about your Action Report, please contact Fran Neely, BSN MS, in Medical Services at (810) 496-8477.

05/10

Pap Tests

What Every Woman Should Know

After you call for an appointment, note the date and time here:

What is a Pap test?

A Pap test or Pap smear checks for changes in the cells of the cervix. The cervix is the lower part of the womb, which opens into the vagina. The test can find cancer cells, or cells that could turn into cancer.

When should I get a Pap test done?

Women should have regular Pap tests to find changes in the cervix before they turn into cancer. All women should start getting Pap tests at age 21 or at the onset of sexual activity. Talk with your doctor about how often you should have a Pap test. Most women have Pap tests every 1 to 3 years.

How is a Pap test done?

A doctor or nurse inserts a speculum into the vagina to see the cervix. A doctor or nurse takes a sample of cells from inside and outside of the cervix. This test only takes a few seconds. Your doctor may also do tests for other diseases at this time.

How to get ready for a Pap test:

For about 2 days before a Pap test, DO NOT:

- Have sex
- Douche
- Use tampons
- Use birth control that is put into the vagina like foam, cream, or jelly
- Take a tub bath
- Use a vaginal lubrication
- Use feminine deodorant sprays or powders
- Swim
- Use any medication that is put into the vagina

What about women who have had a hysterectomy?

- Women who have had a partial hysterectomy still need to get Pap tests. This surgery takes out the womb, but not the cervix.
- Women who have had a total hysterectomy may stop getting Pap tests. This surgery takes out the womb and cervix.
- Even after stopping Pap tests, all women should get a pelvic exam every year.

Who can I talk to if I have questions?

- If you have a regular doctor, talk to him or her.
- If you need help in choosing a doctor, please call HealthPlus Customer Service at 1-800-332-9161 or T.D.D. (Telephonic Device for the Deaf) 1-800-992-5070.

For more information, visit our website at www.healthplus.org or

- National Cancer Institute's Cancer Information Service (CIS) at 1-800-4-CANCER (1-800-422-6237)
For TTY: 1-800-332-8615
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) at 1-800-CDC-INFO (1-800-232-4636)

