

FIREFIGHTER CANCER INITIATIVE

What is HPV?

Human papillomavirus (HPV) is the most common sexually transmitted infection. It affects both men and women and is spread through oral, vaginal, and anal sex. HPV can go away on its own or it can turn into genital warts or cancer.

What cancers are caused by HPV?

There are many forms of **HPV** that can develop into cervical, oropharyngeal, anal, penile, vulvar, and vaginal cancers.

MEN are most at risk for developing oropharyngeal cancer.

WOMEN are most at risk for developing cervical cancer.

While pap smears are used to screen for cervical cancer, there are currently no recommended screening tests for oropharyngeal, anal, penile, vulvar, and vaginal cancers. Thus, these cancers can go undetected until symptoms present at a later stage.



*Female firefighters
in Florida face*

5x the risk
*more at risk of cervical
cancer compared to
female non-firefighters.*

Protecting yourself against HPV

You can protect yourself against HPV and HPV-attributed cancers by getting vaccinated.

- Recommended age range for vaccination: **11-26 years old.**
- Individuals ages 27-45** should consult with their doctors to see if vaccination is appropriate.

While the vaccine is not recommended for all individuals in this age range, those who are at risk for new HPV infections may benefit from vaccination.