

## Cervical Cancer Awareness

### Neighborhood News – April 2025

Cervical cancer is one of the most preventable forms of cancer, according to the American Cancer Society, yet it continues to claim thousands of women's lives annually.

In Measurement Year (MY) 2023, the Healthcare Effectiveness Data Information Set (HEDIS®) rate for our Medicaid members' cervical cancer screening was 67.49%. This rating placed us in the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile of the Medicaid Quality Compass® (QC), highlighting our strong standing among Medicaid plans nationally. However, there remains significant opportunity for improvement.

#### How can you help?

The American Cancer Society offers the following guidelines to aid in cervical cancer awareness and early detection:

1. **Screening Frequency:**
  - **Under the age of 30:** Members should undergo a Papanicolaou (Pap) test every three years.
  - **Ages 30 to 64:** Members can opt for a Pap test every three years or an HPV test every five years.
2. **For Members Over 65 years of age:**
  - Screening may no longer be necessary if the patient had consistent normal screening results over several years or if their cervix was removed during a total hysterectomy for non-cancerous conditions, such as fibroids.
3. **Post-Hysterectomy**
  - Individuals who have had a total hysterectomy should cease screening unless the surgery was performed to treat cervical cancer or serious pre-cancer.

For more detailed information about preventing cervical cancer, visit the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#) or the [American Cancer Society](#).

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