

January 5, 2023

CALLING ATTENTION TO CERVICAL CANCER AWARENESS THIS JANUARY



Each year, more than 14,000 women in the United States are diagnosed with cervical cancer. January is National Cervical Cancer Awareness Month, and your West Central Florida County Health Departments serving Citrus, Hernando, Highlands, Hillsborough, Manatee, Pasco, Pinellas, Polk, and Sarasota counties want you to know that this disease is preventable and treatable if caught early.

Cancer of the cervix, the narrow opening at the end of the uterus, can be treated if detected early. However, for women ages 50-64 who are uninsured or underinsured, getting the testing they need to detect the early stages of the disease can be unaffordable. The Florida Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program (BCCEDP) offers vouchers for these tests to provide critical and often life-saving services. Call your local health department office or visit <https://www.floridahealth.gov/diseases-and-conditions/cancer/breast-cancer/bccedp.html> to get information about how to receive vouchers for these tests.



Almost all cervical cancers are caused by the Human Papillomavirus (HPV), a common virus which can spread easily. Vaccines which can help prevent HPV are available at your doctors' office or at your local health department.

For more information about BCCEDP or getting an HPV vaccine, call your local health department office at:

- DOH Citrus - (352) 527-0068
- DOH Hernando - (352) 540-6800
- DOH Highlands - (863) 386-6040
- DOH Hillsborough - (813) 307-8000
- DOH Manatee - (941) 748-0747
- DOH Pasco - (727) 619-0300
- DOH Pinellas - (727) 824-6900
- DOH Polk - (863) 519-7900
- DOH Sarasota - (941) 861-2900

About the Florida Department of Health

The Department, nationally accredited by the [Public Health Accreditation Board](#), works to protect, promote, and improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county, and community efforts.

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