

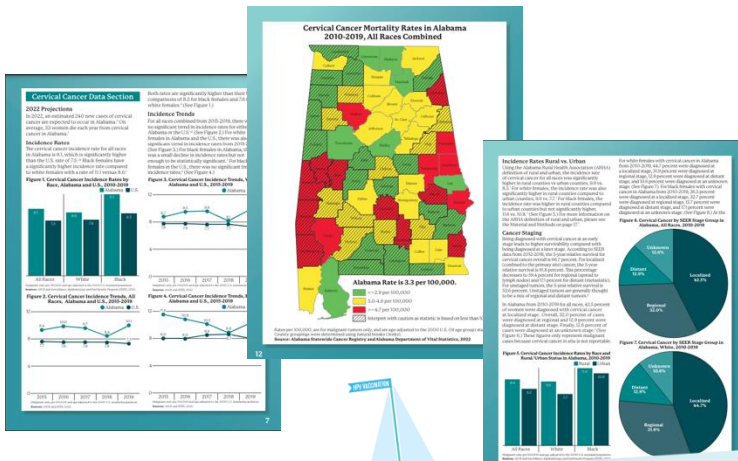


# Nancy Wright

Director  
Cancer Prevention and Control Division  
Alabama Department of Public Health



- 4<sup>th</sup> highest death rate in the nation
- More cancers occur than in the nation
- Higher death and occurrence in Black women
- HPV vaccination lower than the nation
- When diagnosed, it is often late-stage cancer



Alabama Cancer Statistics 2022:  
**FOCUS ON CERVICAL CANCER**

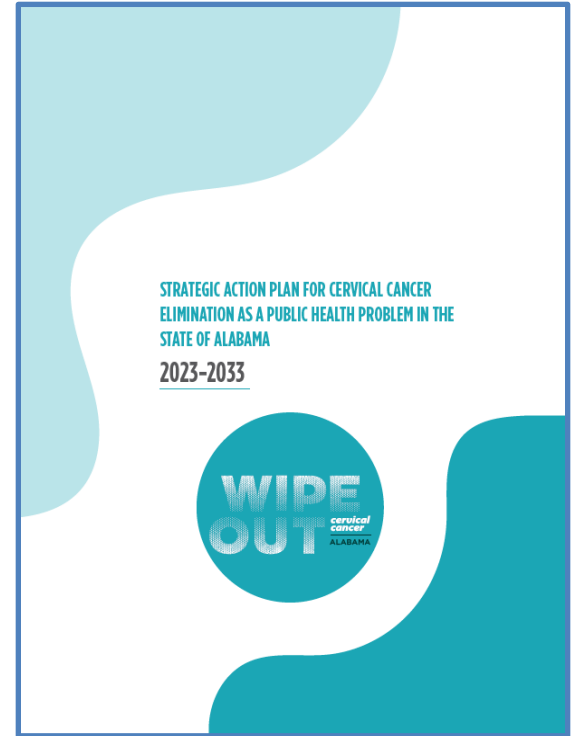
ALABAMA PUBLIC HEALTH | ASCR Alabama Statewide Cancer Registry



Alabama is the 1<sup>st</sup> and Only State in the Nation to Announce a Statewide Effort to Eliminate Cervical Cancer as a Public Health Problem



- Rural Primary Care Physician Summit (Oct. 2022)
- Action Plan (May 2023)
- Documentaries Release
- Featured in an international documentary – *Conquering Cancer*
- Resources
- [www.operationwipeout.org](http://www.operationwipeout.org)
- Partner Agreements (Dec. 2024)
- Summit 2.0 (Feb. 2025)



## Crew Members

ABCCEDP	Alabama Statewide Cancer Registry	American Cancer Society	Cahaba Health System
Chambers County School District	Comprehensive Cancer Control Coalition	Huntsville Hospital Hlth System	Immunization/ Public Health
Laura Crandall Brown Foundation	O'Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center	Quality of Life Health Services	Rotary Club of Birmingham
Rotary Club of LaFayette	Russell Cancer Center	St. Jude HPV Cancer Prevention Program	TogetHER for Health
Tuskegee University	UAB Department of OB/Gyn	USA Mitchell Cancer Institute	VAX 2 STOP CANCER



- Statewide Regional Meeting for Clinicians
- Alabama Academy of Family Practitioners
- Alabama Chapter American Academy of Pediatricians
- American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG) AL/Miss Joint Meeting
- American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG) District VII
- MASA/AAFP Magazine Ads



- ▶ Chambers County High School Students
- ▶ Tuskegee University
- ▶ UAB Peer Wellness Ambassadors & medical students
- ▶ UAB Student Health
- ▶ Birmingham City Schools Health Science Academy

**WIPE OUT**  
VACCINATION IS KEY! WIPE OUT HPV!

**DID YOU KNOW?**  
There is a virus that causes some cancers. You can protect your children from these cancers.

**YES, YOU CAN PROTECT YOUR CHILDREN...**  
HPV is a virus that causes cervical cancer as well as five other cancers in men and women. There is a safe and effective vaccine, called the HPV vaccine, that prevents these cancers. For more information regarding the HPV vaccination at the Chambers County Schools, please contact the school nurse.

*I think it is important for children and adults to get the HPV vaccine because you have one life and you need to take care of your body.*  
Ms. Jeni Arnold  
Health Science Teacher at UAB

For more information regarding cervical cancer and HPV  
[www.operationwipeout.org](http://www.operationwipeout.org)

**WIPE OUT**  
VACCINATION IS KEY! WIPE OUT HPV!

**Students at Valley and LaFayette High Schools Join Class Together to Spread the Word on the Importance of Protection against Ever Having HPV-Related Cancers**

**Why are they wearing the red ribbon?** Cervical cancer is a leading cause of cancer in the United States. It is preventable. HPV is a virus that causes cervical cancer as well as five other cancers in men and women. There is a safe and effective vaccine, called the HPV vaccine, that prevents these cancers. For more information regarding the HPV vaccination at the Chambers County Schools, please contact the school nurse.

**How can we protect our children from these cancers?** HPV is a virus that causes cervical cancer as well as five other cancers in men and women. There is a safe and effective vaccine, called the HPV vaccine, that prevents these cancers. For more information regarding the HPV vaccination at the Chambers County Schools, please contact the school nurse.

**Can HPV be passed from one person to another?** Yes, HPV can be passed from one person to another. It is most commonly spread through sexual contact. It can also be passed from one person to another through sharing of sex toys. It is not spread through hugging, kissing, or sharing of food or drinks.

**If you have a child or adolescent between the ages of 11 and 18 attending the Chambers County Schools who has not received the HPV vaccination, there is an opportunity for them to receive the HPV vaccine on March 13th and May 8th.**

The vaccine will be administered to registered students and without charges will be provided to students who are not registered. Parents and guardians must have parental permission to receive the vaccine. Be on the lookout for school buses that will be used by parents of eligible children. Chambers County School District is proud to partner with Operation Wipe Out.

For more information regarding cervical cancer and HPV  
[www.operationwipeout.org](http://www.operationwipeout.org)



**WIPE OUT**  
VACCINATION IS KEY! WIPE OUT HPV!

**Protect your children from six cancers for the rest of their lives with the HPV vaccine**

**The HPV Virus is Associated with 6 Different Types of Cancer**  
2 types in women, 1 type in men, 2 types in women and men

**When should your children/teenagers be vaccinated?**

Starting at age 9, it is recommended by HPV before the age of 13, two doses are needed. Following their 13th birthday and up to 18 years of age, one dose is needed over 6 months. The earlier the better!

**If we want to protect ourselves and our communities, it is our responsibility to advocate others. Chambers County can set an example for other communities.**  
Ms. Helen Matthews  
Project Lead/PT Parent Representative

For more information regarding cervical cancer and HPV  
[www.operationwipeout.org](http://www.operationwipeout.org)




- ▶ Cahaba Medical Care/Wilcox County
- ▶ Quality of Life Health Care Services
- ▶ Alabama Comprehensive Cancer Control Coalition
- ▶ ADPH
  - ▶ Cancer Prevention and Control Division
  - ▶ Immunization Division
  - ▶ Cancer Registry

## WIPEOUT Cervical Cancer

*Eliminating Cervical Cancer in Alabama*  
**CHAMBERS, LEE, MACON, RUSSELL, AND TALLAPOOSA COUNTIES**

Regional Meeting with clinicians to discuss:





- Local cervical cancer data
- Local HPV vaccination data
- Reimbursement for screening uninsured women
- Reimbursement for diagnostic tests
- HPV insights
- Optional workshop to tackle regional barriers




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**SPEAKERS**

<p><b>Jennifer Young-Pierce, MD</b> Gynecological Oncologist USA Mitchell Cancer Institute</p> <p><b>Nancy Wright, MPH</b> Al Breast &amp; Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program Alabama Department of Public Health</p>	<p><b>March 12, 2024 • 12-1pm</b> <b>1-2 pm (optional working meeting)</b></p> <p>Spencer Cancer Center 2501 Village Professional Dr. Opelika, AL</p> <p>Virtual Available Free CME/CNEs Lunch Included</p> <p>Registration Link: <a href="http://alabamapublichealth.gov/bandc/news.html">alabamapublichealth.gov/bandc/news.html</a></p>
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## WE CAN STOP CANCER & PROTECT OUR FAMILIES



**Alabama's Women Have the Power to Make a Difference**

### Cervical Cancer

We can work together to **WIPE OUT** cervical cancer in Alabama. Eliminating it is possible in 3 steps:

1. **HPV Vaccination** – It prevents HPV which causes cervical cancer & it is safe (age 9-26)
2. **Screening** – Regular HPV/Pap tests find pre-cancer & cancer early (start at age 21)
3. **Follow-Up/Treatment** – If test results are abnormal, it is very important to go back to see your doctor

Learn More at: [www.operationwipeout.org](http://www.operationwipeout.org)

### Breast Cancer

Finding it early makes all the difference. When found early, the survival rate is 92%.

1. Be sure to get a mammogram every 1-2 years (age 40 & older)
2. Talk to your doctor if there are any changes in your breast or if you have a family history
3. Don't wait until you have symptoms, often breast cancer has no symptoms

**No Insurance? Low Income?**  
**FREE Screening:** Age 40-64  
**FREE Follow-Up:** Age 30-64  
**FREE Treatment:** If US Citizen

For More Info: Call 1-877-252-3324 • Learn More at: [www.alabamapublichealth.gov/bandc](http://www.alabamapublichealth.gov/bandc)



**VACCINATION IS KEY!  
WIPE OUT HPV!**

**DID YOU KNOW THAT CERVICAL CANCER CAN BE PREVENTED WITH A VACCINE?**

Partnering to Prevent and **WIPE OUT** Cervical Cancer is a partnership between ADPH's Immunization Division and Operation **WIPE OUT** Cervical Cancer Alabama.

This collaborative effort aims to raise awareness on the significance of the HPV vaccine as protection against cervical cancer in Alabama.





## I am a Business Owner

### What Can I Do To Wipe Out Cervical Cancer In Alabama?



Watch the 35-minute video "Conquering Cervical Cancer in Alabama"

\*Provide employees with educational materials monthly or quarterly via email or mail



Collaborate with a local clinic to schedule a mobile cervical cancer screening unit on-site to facilitate cervical cancer screening

Consider adding information on Cervical Cancer and HPV in the New Hire Packet

If your business does not offer insurance, share information about the Alabama Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program (ABC) which provides free cervical cancer screening, follow-up tests, and cancer treatment for women with no health insurance (1-877-252-3324)

Consider hosting a health fair or lunch and learn and invite a health care professional to provide education and answer questions about HPV vaccination, screening, and follow-up



Consider offering paid time off for employees to get screened for cervical cancer



Join OPERATION WIPE OUT and become an advocate

<https://operationwipeout.org/>

\*<https://www.alabamapublichealth.gov/cancer/cervical.html>

Engage Human Resources or Administrative Unit and commit to informing employees that cervical cancer can be eliminated in our lifetime



Display educational flyers on the company's website, bulletin boards, restroom facilities, breakroom, and other appropriate locations



Initiate a discussion with parents regarding the benefits of the HPV vaccination in preventing cervical cancer as well as head and neck cancers



Refer patients to a primary care provider or county health department for HPV vaccination



## I am a Dentist

### What Can I Do To Wipe Out Cervical Cancer In Alabama?

Encourage moms, dads, and legal guardians to talk to their doctor about their children (boys and girls aged 9-18) getting the HPV vaccination. If they do not have health insurance, Vaccines for Children (VFC) provides free HPV vaccine for children and adolescents 9 to 18 years of age



Encourage young adults (age 19 - 26) to get the HPV vaccine



Display educational flyers on website, bulletin boards, restroom facilities, breakrooms, and other appropriate locations; Distribute HPV vaccination materials to patients and families\*\*



Advocate for oral health care providers to have authorization to administer the HPV vaccination in their practices



Join OPERATION WIPE OUT and become an advocate

<https://operationwipeout.org/>

\*\*<https://www.alabamapublichealth.gov/oralhealth/oral-cancer.html>

\*<https://www.alabamapublichealth.gov/cancer/cervical.html>

## I am a Cancer Survivor

### What Can I Do To Wipe Out Cervical Cancer In Alabama?

Consider sharing your story at an educational event hosted by a community leader or church leader



Share information about the Alabama Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program (ABC) for free cervical cancer screenings, diagnostic testing, and cancer treatment for women who have no health insurance. (1-877-252-3324)



Encourage women in your community to get screened for cervical cancer regularly



Encourage women who have had an abnormal HPV/Pap test to go back to the doctor for a follow-up appointment



Encourage moms, dads, and legal guardians to talk to their doctor about their children (boys and girls aged 9-18) getting the HPV vaccination. If they do not have health insurance, Vaccines for Children (VFC) provides free HPV vaccine for children and adolescents 9 to 18 years of age



Learn more about CERVIVOR (<https://cervivor.org>), a nonprofit organization that brings cervical cancer survivors together and helps spread awareness, education, support, and more

**cervivor**

Share the exciting news that we can end a cancer with your support group, friends, neighbors, and family



Join OPERATION WIPE OUT and become an advocate

<https://operationwipeout.org/>



Cancer Health

## Alabama Plans to Eliminate Cervical Cancer Within 10 Years

Experts seek to improve vaccination, screening and treatment in Alabama, which has the fourth highest cervical cancer rate in the country.

May 15, 2024 By Laura Schmidt



News

## Cervical Cancer Awareness Month: preventing and eliminating the disease in Alabama

Alabama Public Radio | By **Hannah Holcombe**  
Published January 22, 2024 at 5:33 AM CST

HEALTH | HEALTHCARE

## Cervical Cancer Can Be Eliminated. Alabama Is Leading the Way.

Thousands of U.S. women die each year from this preventable cancer

By **Brianna Abbott** [Follow](#)  
May 6, 2024 9:30 am ET

Doctors are rallying around an audacious goal: eliminating a cancer for the first time.

Cervical cancer rates in the U.S. have dropped by more than half since the 1970s. Pap tests enable purge precancerous cells, and a vaccine approved in 2006 has protected a generation of women a human papillomavirus, a sexually transmitted infection that causes more than 90% of cervical ca

With this evidence that the disease is preventable, groups that have worked for decades to end p malaria are turning to cervical cancer, plotting to take cases down to null. The World Health Orga urging countries to boost vaccination, screening and treatment. Doctors in the U.S. are working c national plan.

## CCSD students come together campaign for Operation Wipe Out

Published 8:00 am Thursday, December 14, 2023

By Charlotte Reames



## Huntsville mother battling cervical cancer wants others to know the warning signs

• [Jillian Key](#)  
• Jan 28, 2024 Updated Jan 30, 2024

<https://whnt.com/news/alabama-news/doctors-encourage-women-to-take-steps-to-prevent-cervical-cancer/>



ALABAMA NEWS

## Doctors encourage women to take steps to prevent cervical cancer

By **Emileigh Forrester**  
Posted: Jan 12, 2024 / 10:43 AM CST  
Updated: Jan 16, 2024 / 08:58 AM CST

SHARE

(WHNT) – Women in Alabama are more likely to die from cervical cancer than women in most other states, according to the Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH).

January is Cervical Cancer Awareness Month, and doctors are using this as an opportunity to teach women how to prevent cervical cancer and how to catch cervical cancer early in hopes of reducing the risk of death.

NBC 15 New/Mobile AL

## ADPH: Cervical cancer can be eliminated in our lifetime

by Andrea Ramey  
Tue, January 23rd 2024



- Texas
- Louisiana
- Florida
- Tennessee
- White House Cervical Cancer Forum
- Southeastern HPV Roundtable
- National HPV Roundtable
- Cervical Cancer Roundtable
- Rotary International Assembly
- Rotary International Convention



[www.operationwipeout.org](http://www.operationwipeout.org)



- Become a partner in OPERATION WIPE OUT
- Every individual has a role in eliminating cervical cancer
- Help reach Alabamians with a consistent, simple message in the same language
- Leverage and build the name recognition
  - Apply for grants noting you're a WIPE OUT partner
  - Add the logo to educational materials
  - Add the logo and your partnership with us to your website
  - Use the logo and message in media messages/NP articles

## Get Informed!

Spread the information!  
Let Others Know!



**Cervical Cancer**  
Cervical cancer affects the cervix, which is part of the female organs.  
Everyone with a cervix is at risk of developing cervical cancer, even if they don't have a family history of cancer.

**Human Papillomavirus (HPV)**  
HPV is the main cause of cervical cancer.  
Almost everyone who has had any type of sexual activity will get infected with HPV at some point in their lives.

For most people the virus goes away on its own. However, if the infection by this virus persists over time, it can turn into pre-cancer and cancer.

Various types of HPV can also cause vaginal and vulvar cancer in women, penile cancer in men, and anal and oropharyngeal cancer in men and women.

**Cervical Cancer Elimination Can Be Achieved**  
Cervical cancer is different from many other cancers in that it can be wiped out through three action steps: HPV Vaccination, Cervical Cancer Screening, and Follow-Up/Treatment.

**HPV Vaccine**  
The vaccine is recommended for children, adolescents, and young adults aged 9-26. Adults aged 27-45 can also receive the HPV vaccine based on discussion with their health care provider.

CHILDREN	ADOLESCENTS	ADOLESCENTS AND ADULTS
9-12 years of age 2 doses	Between 12 and 14 years of age 2 doses	Between 15 and 26 years of age 3 doses

The partner or child receives the HPV vaccine, one partner.

The vaccine has gone through many years of research, and it has shown to be safe and effective in preventing targeted HPV types.

The cost of HPV vaccine is covered by most health insurance plans or the Vaccines for Children (VFC) Program among children/adolescents 18 years of age or younger.

In order to make an informed decision on whether to get your children and/or yourself vaccinated against HPV, talk to your health care provider and/or refer to credible websites such as the CDC, American Cancer Society, and National Cancer Institute.

**Cervical Cancer Screening**  
Everyone who has a cervix and is between the ages of 21-65 should get screened regularly.  
Screenings are covered by most insurance plans. Individuals who do not have health insurance coverage and meet the income guidelines can get screened through the Alabama Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program at no cost. This program covers screening and follow-up tests, if needed.



**Follow-Up and Treatment**  
If the cervical cancer screening results are abnormal be sure to go back to your health care provider.  
Follow-up tests can detect and treat changes before cancer develops.



For more information, visit: [www.operationwipeout.org](http://www.operationwipeout.org) or email: [info@operationwipeout.org](mailto:info@operationwipeout.org)

