

OPERATION WIPE OUT

*cervical
cancer*
ALABAMA

WHAT CAN YOU DO TO ELIMINATE CERVICAL CANCER IN ALABAMA?

It takes 3 steps:

1



HPV VACCINE

Give the HPV
vaccination to
children and
young adults
aged 9-26

2



SCREENING

Get regular
HPV/Pap test to
screen for
cervical cancer
beginning at
age 21

3



FOLLOW-UP/ TREATMENT

If your HPV/Pap
test is abnormal,
go back to your
doctor/health
care provider for
a follow-up
appointment

I am a **Physician, Physician Assistant,** **Or a Nurse Practitioner**

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

Complete the interactive 4-part online module on **HPV Communication Skills Training** for free CEs.



Address known barriers to cervical cancer prevention and screening

- Establish a trusting relationship with your female patients
- Educate female patients about the HPV virus being the leading cause of cervical cancer
- Schedule the screening right away, before the patient departs from the office
- Explain what the screening consists of and next steps, particularly in the event of abnormal results

Ensure your female patients aged **21 - 64** are screened for cervical cancer **regularly** via the **HPV/Pap test**



Utilize an EHR or other alert system to identify patients who are due for screening

If you don't provide **cervical cancer screening** in your practice, once approved, consider recommending and offering **self-collection for HPV testing**

As a nurse practitioner **consider becoming a colposcopist**. The tools used in mobile colposcopy are easy to transport. Adherence to colposcopy appointments has increased drastically in the local health departments in Alabama with the utilization of mobile colposcopists

Use the **ASCCP** app on your phone to determine appropriate follow-up based on test results and family history

- The ASCCP app is \$9.99 for a lifetime subscription
- The ASCCP app can be found in the Apple/Android store under ASCCP Management Guidelines (ASCCP: American Society for Colposcopy and Cervical Pathology)

Consider contracting with the **Alabama Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program (ABC)**. For women with no health insurance, this program reimburses physicians at the Medicare rate for cervical cancer screening, and, if needed, diagnostic testing at no charge to the patient. The program also provides free treatment through **Medicaid (1-877-252-3324)**



Carefully explain abnormal results in detail to ensure understanding of importance of follow-up

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 - 18** years of age



Display educational flyers on bulletin boards, in restroom facilities, breakrooms, and other appropriate locations*

Encourage your staff to **educate, inform, and engage** with patients regarding inquiries and concerns about **screening** and **HPV vaccination**



Use your **credibility** as a physician, physician assistant, or nurse practitioner to **spread** the word in your office and community



Join **OPERATION WIPE OUT** and become an advocate

<https://operationwipeout.org/>

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