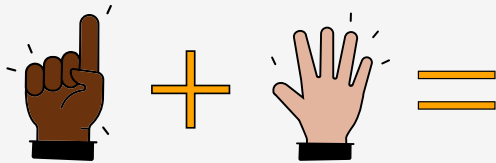


Australian public awareness of cervical cancer prevention recommendations



A consumer survey of 1,000 Australian adults has found most people are unaware of the latest recommendations for cervical cancer prevention.



Cervical cancer protection

One (1) dose of the human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine for young people



A cervical screening test every five (5) years for women and people with a cervix from age 25–74



Most cervical cancers are caused by the human papillomavirus (HPV), but Australians don't realise just how common HPV infection is.

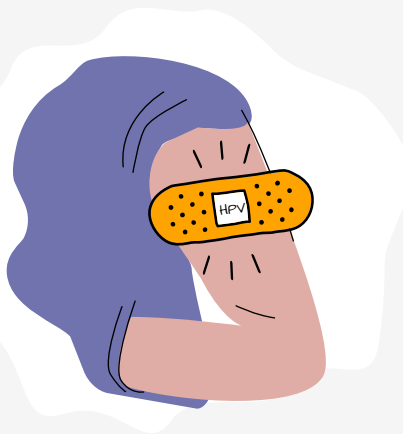
- **9 in 10** people will have HPV at least once in their lifetime
- **only 5%** of Australian adults surveyed were aware of this.

It is possible to prevent potentially harmful HPV infections through vaccination

- Just **12%** of people knew that **one dose of the HPV vaccine** is now recommended for most young people. This includes for males and people without a cervix.

When it came to HPV vaccination:

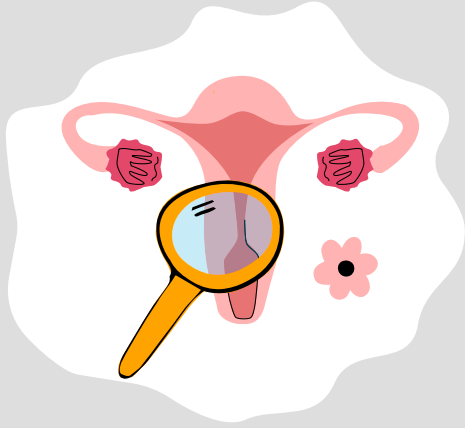
- **32%** knew girls aged ≤ 25 years were able to receive the free HPV vaccine
- **10%** knew boys aged ≤ 25 years were able to receive the free HPV vaccine
- **24%** didn't know where they could get a catch-up HPV vaccine if they missed out on the national school-based HPV vaccination program



HPV vaccination is available to young people via our world-renowned national school-based vaccination program. The optimal age for vaccination is 12–13 years, prior to the commencement of sexual activity.

≤ 25 years

People ≤ 25 years who missed out on HPV vaccination at high school (or didn't go to high school in Australia) can access a free-of-charge catch-up vaccine.



A cervical screening test is recommended every five (5) years for women and people with a cervix aged 25-74 years. This includes people who have received the HPV vaccine.

- **Only 30%** knew the recommended frequency for cervical screening is every five years.

When it came to cervical screening:

- **44%** of women did not know if they still needed cervical screening after having the HPV vaccine,
- a further **13%** believed they did not need cervical screening
- **22%** of women knew that the recommended cervical screening age is 25-74 years.



Choice available:

- **More than 1 in 4 (28%)** of women knew you can now do your own **self-collection** cervical screening test in a private space at your doctor, nurse or health worker's rooms.

Since July last year, a choice of cervical screening options is now available for women and people with a cervix 25-74 years.

With changes to our national prevention programs, it's never been easier to make cervical cancer history.

All you need to remember is 1+5 = cervical cancer protection.



**1 dose of
HPV vaccine**



**Cervical screening
every 5 years**



Cervical cancer protection

About the survey

The online survey included 1,000 Australians:

- 51% females and 49% males
- Metropolitan (68%), regional (25%) and rural areas (7%)
- People from a non-English speaking (14%), Aboriginal/Torres Strait Islander background (2%).

Conducted in August 2023 by SenateSHJ on behalf of ACCF

For more information visit: accf.org.au