

## Cervical Cancer

The cervix is located at the lower end of the uterus. In 1999, about 5,000 women died from cervical cancer with an overall incidence of 12,800. Prior to 1930, the death rate was higher than for breast cancer. By 1946, the death rate had fallen below that for breast cancer, and currently it's less than half the death rate of breast cancer. The favorable trend is attributed to the widespread adoption of the pap smear in the early 1940's. The pap is a microscopic examination of cells able to detect a pre-cancerous stage or a malignancy in a preinvasive state. Carcinoma of the cervix often produces no symptoms but can be found in an abnormal pap smear done during gynecological examinations. Most cervical cancers are squamous cell carcinomas. Carcinoma in situ is a small malignant tumor that is non invasive. In stage I, the cancer is strictly confined to the cervix. Stage I is subdivided into stage 1a (less than 5mm in depth and 7mm in width) and stage 1b (larger lesions). Stage II extends beyond the cervix to the vagina wall; stage III extends to the pelvic walls; and stage IV extends beyond the pelvis. Treatment of cervical cancer depends on its stage (.e., the extent to which the cancer has spread). For women who wish to have children, Stage I is treated with cone biopsy with meticulous evaluation of excised specimen. Stage Ia presents no risk for lymph node metastasis and is treated with simple hysterectomy. Stage Ib and stage II are treated with radical surgery (hysterectomy and lymph node removal) or radiation therapy. Stage III or IV tumors are more invasive and are treated with radiation and radioactive implants. Adverse prognostic factors for cervical cancer include large tumor size, high microscopic grade and any lymph node metastasis. The prognosis is worse for those diagnosed under 40 years of age. The five year survival rate is 90% for stage I cancers, 70 to 80% for stage II, 40% for stage III, and 10% for stage IV cancers.

**If your client has a history of Cervical Cancer, please answer the following:**

**1. Please list date of diagnosis:** \_\_\_\_\_

**2. What stage was the cancer?**

Stage 0(in-situ) \_\_\_\_\_ Stage II \_\_\_\_\_

Stage Ia \_\_\_\_\_ Stage III \_\_\_\_\_

Stage Ib \_\_\_\_\_ Stage IV \_\_\_\_\_

**3. How was the cancer treated? (check all that apply):**

cone surgery \_\_\_\_\_ total hysterectomy \_\_\_\_\_

radiation therapy \_\_\_\_\_ chemotherapy \_\_\_\_\_

**4. Please list date treatment was completed:**

**5. Is your client on any medications? If yes (Please give details)**

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**6. Has your client smoked cigarettes or other form of tobacco in the last 5 years?**

If yes (Please give details) \_\_\_\_\_

**7. Does your client have any other major health problems (ex: heart disease, etc.)?**

If yes (Please give details)

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