

5 minutes
worth
one
LIFE



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**CERVICAL SCREENING IN
EMILIA ROMAGNA**

WHAT IS CERVICAL SCREENING?

Screening makes it possible to **prevent cervical cancers by** treating precancerous lesions that could develop into cancer and reduce mortality through **early detection** of cervical cancers.

Screening is for all women residents, domiciled and cared for in Emilia-Romagna, who are invited every three years for a Pap test between the ages of 25 and 29 years (if not vaccinated against HPV) and an HPV test every five years between the ages of 30 and 64 years. The screening test is **simple, free and takes only a few minutes.**

WHY JOIN IN WITH SCREENING?

To take care of you and your health As a result of screening, **cervical cancer has become rarer.** The entire screening **process is free and organized**, from testing to any treatment and subsequent follow-ups.

THANKS TO CERVICAL SCREENING

- 40%
new cancers

- 50%
mortality

WHAT IS THE PAP TEST?

The Pap test consists of a delicate **collection of cells** from the cervix with a small spatula and brush; the material is then analyzed under a microscope to detect **any changes** caused by the HPV virus.

WHAT IS THE HPV TEST?

HPV testing is performed on material taken as with the Pap test and **looks for the presence** of certain types of **papilloma virus (high-risk HPV)**, the cause of a very common sexually transmitted infection. Most women recover spontaneously (there is no effective treatment), but the virus, when it remains, can, in a minority of cases, cause lesions in the cervix that can slowly develop into cancer.

WHY DOES THE HPV TEST PROVIDE BETTER PROTECTION THAN THE PAP TEST?

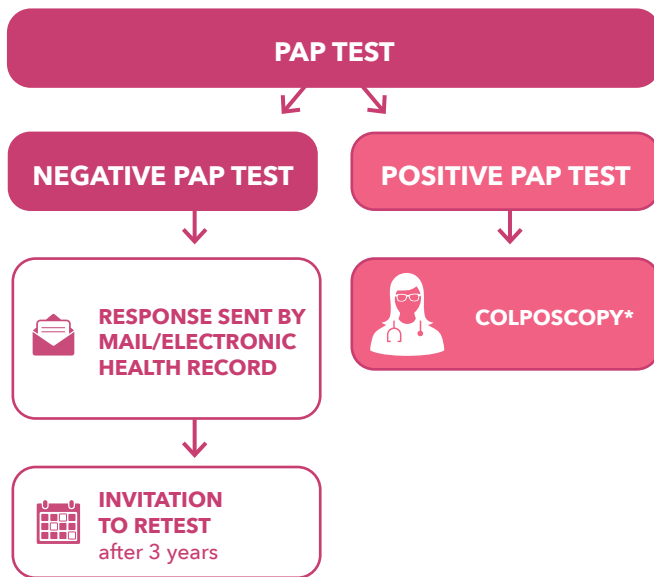
Many studies have shown that, compared with the Pap test, the HPV test **finds more cervical lesions, earlier.** It is therefore sufficient to repeat it every five years rather than every three years, for the Pap test.

WHY IS HPV TESTING ONLY RECOMMENDED FROM THE AGE OF 30?

Because in younger women, HPV infections are very common, but **in the vast majority of cases they resolve spontaneously.** HPV screening in women under 30 leads to finding, then treating, lesions that would have regressed spontaneously.

Thanks to effective protection from the HPV vaccine, all girls, **born from 1998** onwards who received two doses of the vaccine before the age of 15 will be invited for their **first screening test at age 30** and no longer at 25.

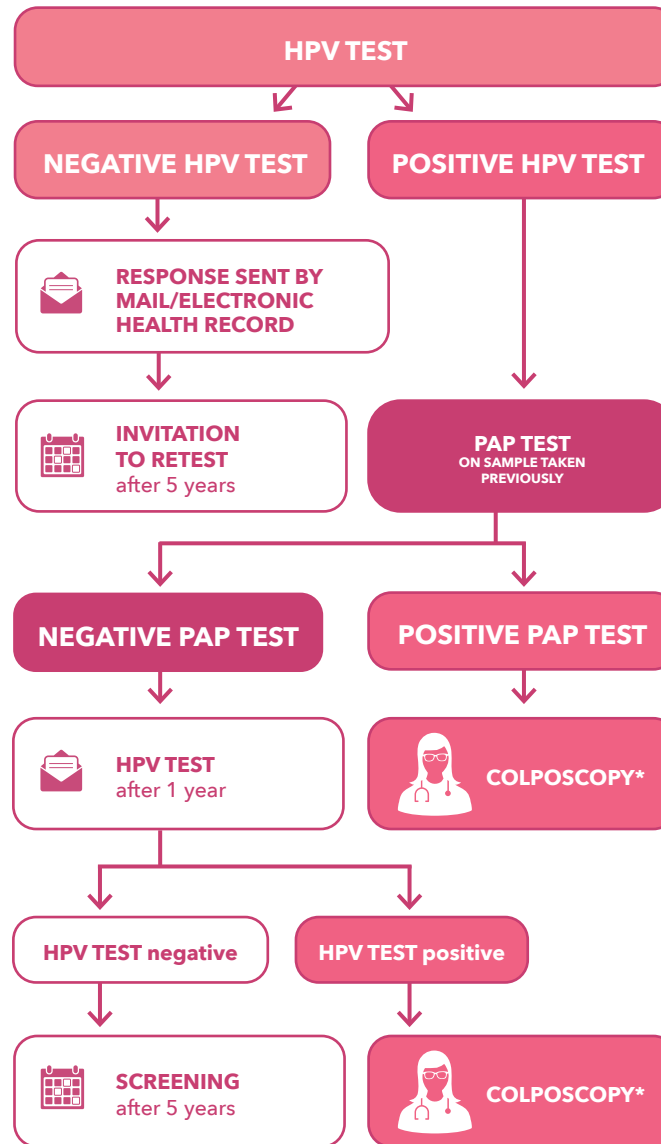
NO VACCINATION AND AGED BETWEEN 25 AND 29?



*A colposcopy is a free, painless checkup to detect any lesions that need treatment.

Screening cannot detect other gynecological diseases: pay attention to the onset of any symptoms or complaints and, if necessary, consult your healthcare provider.

AGED BETWEEN 30 AND 64?



SCREENING IDENTIFIES:

- 1 positive HPV test **for every 12** women tested
- 1 precancerous lesion **for every 132** women tested
- 1 tumor **per 5,000** women tested

Show up for the appointment: five minutes, one worry less.

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