



Jackson County Department of Public Health

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JCDPH OFFERS PREVENTION OPTIONS FOR CERVICAL CANCER

The Jackson County Department of Public Health offers prevention options for cervical cancer through three different programs; the Family Planning Program, Adult Health Program, and Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Program.

The National Cervical Cancer Coalition and the Jackson County Department of Public Health urge women to talk with their healthcare provider about cervical health and routine screenings. The North Carolina Central Cancer Registry states, "Cervical cancer is the most common HPV (Human papillomavirus) associated cancer among women and more than 90% of cervical cancers are caused by HPV. It is estimated that 406 females in North Carolina will be diagnosed with Cervical cancer and 129 will die of cancer of the Cervix." (Health statistics for 2019).

According to the CDC, "Each year there are about 34,800 new cancer cases caused by HPV in the United States". Cervical Cancer is the fourth most common type of cancer but, because it develops over time, it is also one of the most preventable types of cancer.

Two prevention tools that women can take advantage of include routine Pap tests and HPV vaccine. A Pap test can find cell changes in the cervix caused by HPV (the virus that can lead to cervical cancer). The Jackson County Department of Public Health offers Pap tests to women through multiple programs per AGOG/ASCCP guidelines. Additionally, the Health Department provides HPV vaccination. This vaccine is recommended for routine vaccination for males and females starting at age 11 or 12 years to assist in developing a stronger immune response. It can also be given later in life to those who were not adequately vaccinated previously.

For more information, call the Health Department at 828-586-8994 to find out if you are eligible for one of our programs that offer cervical screenings.

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