

What Your Results Mean

The *digene* HPV Test

You have an HPV infection, but your Pap test is normal

You have just learned that you have HPV. You may feel confused and scared. But once you have all the facts, you'll learn that having HPV is very common. And it's nothing to be afraid of.

First, a few facts:

- HPV — or human papillomavirus — is very common, almost like a cold. In fact, about 8 out of 10 women will have had HPV by the time they're 50.
- The virus is spread through sexual contact. You can get HPV from being intimate with just one partner.

The good news:

- While HPV is common, cervical cancer is not. Most HPV infections go away on their own without causing any problems. It's only when an infection lasts for more than 12–18 months that it can cause abnormal cells to form in the cervix — the kind that can become cervical cancer.

8 in 10 women will have HPV by age 50.



What happens next?

- If you have HPV but your Pap is normal, there's no reason for alarm! Medical experts agree that it's best to wait about a year before repeating both the Pap test and the HPV test. Although you may not want to wait, remember that most HPV infections clear up on their own without causing problems.
- If you still have the virus at your next HPV test, then it's time to have a colposcopy. During a colposcopy, your doctor uses a magnifying device to look at your cervix more closely. Your doctor may also remove a small sample of tissue to analyze further in the lab. If any pre-cancerous cells are found, they can then be removed, before cervical cancer can occur.

What should I tell my partner?

- Chances are, by the time your infection was detected, your partner had already been exposed to HPV.
- Once you share a particular type of the virus through sexual contact, there is no further risk of passing the infection back and forth. If you are sexually active with a new partner, using a condom provides some, although not complete, protection.
- It's almost impossible to determine who gave you HPV or when you first became infected. You could have gotten it from your current partner or any of your previous partners.
- There is no suitable and recommended HPV test for men. Fortunately, health problems from HPV are rare in males.

Most adults will get HPV if they are or have been in a sexual relationship. There's no need for shame, blame, or embarrassment.

Trademarks: QIAGEN®. 1058022 09/2009 © 2009 QIAGEN, all rights reserved.

www.qiagen.com

Australia # 1-800-243-800
Austria # 0800/281011
Belgium # 0800-79612
France # 01-60-920-926
Germany # 02103-29-12000
Ireland # 1800 555 049

Italy # 800 787980
Luxembourg # 8002 2076
The Netherlands # 0800 0229592
Spain # 91-630-7050
Switzerland # 055-254-22-11
UK # 01293-422-911



www.theHPVtest.com