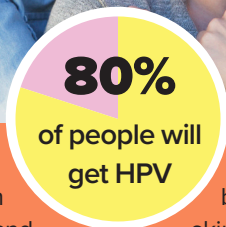


HPV INFORMATION:

FOR WOMEN WHO HAVE SEX WITH WOMEN



HPV is a very common virus. Often it has no symptoms and will be cleared by the immune system without causing any problems. However, high risk types of HPV can increase the risk of certain cancers – including cervical, mouth and throat, vaginal, vulval and anal cancers.

HPV can be spread by any skin-to-skin sexual contact, including:

- genital-to-genital sex
- oral sex
- mutual masturbation
- sharing sex toys

Find out more at: eveappeal.org.uk/HPV



Using dams for oral sex and condoms with sex toys helps to reduce your risk, but doesn't offer full protection from HPV. There is a vaccine that protects against some types of HPV. It is free on the NHS up until the age of 25. It is also available up until 45 for those who might be at a higher risk, like sex workers and people who are immunosuppressed.

Even if you've had the HPV vaccine, it's important to know the symptoms to look out for, and get anything unusual checked

MYTH BUSTERS

Myth: Lesbian women cannot get HPV.

Fact: Lesbian and bisexual women can get HPV from skin-to-skin contact, either through oral sex, mutual masturbation, genital-to-genital sex or by sharing sex toys. It is rare for HPV infection to cause cancer, but it's still important to know which symptoms to look out for, and get anything unusual checked.

Myth: Cervical screening is only for women who have sex with men.

Fact: Cervical screening is for anyone with a cervix, regardless of their gender or sexual orientation. This includes lesbians and bisexual women.



**the eve
appeal**

the gynaecological cancers charity

Find out more at: eveappeal.org.uk/HPV