

# PUBLIC HEALTH CONNECTION



## Cervical Cancer Awareness Month

### Cervical Cancer Facts

Each year in the United States, about 4,000 women die from cervical cancer. National Cervical Cancer Awareness Month is a reminder that early detection can save lives. Cervical cancer occurs most often in people 30 years of age and older. People who smoke tobacco or leave Human Papillomavirus (HPV) infections untreated may be at higher risk at developing cervical cancer. Early stages of cervical cancer may not have any signs or symptoms, which is why detecting cancer early, when treatment is most successful, is important.

### Local Prevention, Testing and Screening Services

Almost all cervical cancers (likely 91% in Iowa) are caused by HPV. Luckily, a vaccine is available to help prevent these cervical cancers. The Scott County Health Department offers HPV vaccine for uninsured and underinsured kids and teens through the Vaccine for Children (VFC) program.

Additionally, the Care for Yourself Program provides free or low-cost breast and cervical cancer screening services to underserved people in Iowa between 21 and 64 years of age. Services available include pap tests, HPV tests, mammograms, diagnostic testing, and patient navigation. If the tests received through the Care for Yourself program find cervical cancer, local staff will help participants connect to treatment. Call 563-421-3081 to learn more about this program.

During and following the COVID-19 pandemic, routine health appointments may have been missed or delayed. Start the new year off by making an appointment with your health care provider.



### OUR MISSION:

The Scott County Health Department promotes, protects, and preserves health through leadership, services, education, and partnerships.

### OUR VISION:

Scott County—  
A safe and healthy  
community.



## SPECIAL EVENTS

- *SCHD will be closed Monday, January 1, 2024 in observation of New Year's Day and on Monday, January 15, 2024 in observation of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day*
- *Scott County Board of Health Meeting, Scott County Administrative Center, 1st Floor Boardroom, 12:00 PM, Thursday, January 18, 2024*

## Links

- **SCHD Immunization Program**  
<https://www.scottcountyiowa.gov/health/immunization>
- **Care for Yourself Program**  
<https://www.scottcountyiowa.gov/health/community-relations/care-yourself>
- **Cervical Cancer Statistics**  
[https://www.cdc.gov/cancer/cervical/basic\\_info/index.htm](https://www.cdc.gov/cancer/cervical/basic_info/index.htm)
- **Tobacco-Free Quad Cities**  
<https://tobaccofreeqc.org/>

## Consider Quitting Tobacco

With the start of the new year, there has never been a better time to consider quitting tobacco products. If you use tobacco products and would like to stop, Iowans have access to 3 free, confidential resources. Quitline Iowa provides counseling to all Iowans and can provide multiple cessation tools such as nicotine gum and patches. My Life My Quit is designed for ages 13+. The counseling provided by this service is typically via text as participants work through each module. Your Life Iowa is another service with the additional benefit of mental health counseling. Make this year your year for quitting tobacco and kicking the habit for good.

### Resources

Quitline Iowa: 1-800-662-4357

Your Life Iowa: (855)-581-8111 or chat online with the live chat feature

My Life My Quit: Text "Start My Quit" to 36072



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