According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, nearly 13,000 new cases of cervical cancer were reported in 2018.¹ When found early, cancer is typically easier to treat and health outcomes tend to be better. Getting a Pap test can help prevent cervical cancer or catch it in its earliest stages.

From the age of 21 to 29, it is recommended that women receive a cervical cancer screening every three years with a Pap test alone.² From the age of 30 to 65, it is recommended that women continue receiving screening every three years with a Pap test alone, OR every five years with high risk HPV testing alone, OR every five years with high risk HPV testing plus a Pap test. Most women younger than 21 years and older than 65 years, or those who have had a hysterectomy, do not need a screening for cervical cancer.²

Above, you will find the tools used in a Pap test and a brief description of how they are used.