

HUMAN PAPILLOMAVIRUS (HPV) STUDY 2008 FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1) What is the HPV study?

CancerCare Manitoba and Manitoba Cervical Cancer Screening Program are conducting a study to determine the prevalence of HPV in Manitoba women.

The study's goal is to **collect 1,000 HPV samples** from women attending clinics on Pap Test Day. This HPV test is done from the same sample as the Pap test – no other test is required.

2) Where do we get SUPPLIES / TOOLS for HPV testing?

Manitoba Cervical Cancer Screening Program and Cadham Lab will send the clinics:

- HPV study consent forms
- Risk factor surveys
- HPV study requisitions
- HPV specimen collection tubes
- HPV sample collection protocol
- Educational resources – HPV pamphlets, fact sheets

3) How do we handle CONSENT FORMS and RISK FACTOR SURVEYS?

This research requires **signed consent** to perform an HPV test. Researchers are also requesting that women fill about a survey about risk factors in HPV infection. The survey is not mandatory, but encouraged as it will provide vital information about how women become infected with HPV.

Clinics will need a staff/support person to:

- *briefly* explain the HPV study to women attending your clinic as required (a cover letter on the consent form also explains the study)
- provide women with consent forms and risk factor surveys
- ensure participants understand the consent form after reading it, initial each page and sign it
- ensure the specimen number placed on HPV sample tube is the same as the specimen number on consent form and survey
- collect completed consent forms and store in a secure, locked area between the time of collection at the clinic and return to Cadham Laboratory
- ensure all documents (consent forms/surveys) and HPV specimens are returned to Cadham Lab (envelope for documents will be provided)

Role of support person: The staff member/support person does not need to be a nurse or doctor. The consent form and risk factor survey are written so participants can complete them independently. However, a staff/support person may be asked questions for clarification to ensure the participant understands the study and consent.

4) How to collect the HPV SPECIMEN?

The HPV sample is simple to collect and is taken from left over cells from the Pap test.

Use one collection tube for each participant.

After processing the specimen for the Pap test uncap one specimen collection tube marked with the requisition number to collect the leftover cells. Place the brush and spatula in the medium and stir them 5-6 times to allow the leftover cells to be suspended.

After collecting the cells in the medium, cap the collection tube, make sure that the tube does not leak and store it at room temperature.

Store the specimen till the end of the day then forward the specimens collected in that day to your laboratory to send them in the same day or following working day to the Cadham Provincial Laboratory, attention of Dr. Magdy Dawood.

5) Where to RETURN HPV study documents and specimens?

Return HPV study consent forms and surveys (envelope provided) and HPV specimens to:

Cadham Provincial Laboratory
Attention: Dr. Magdy Dawood
750 William Ave.
Winnipeg, MB R3C 3Y1
Ph: (204) 945-7545

Send HPV specimens as per your clinic /centre's **usual procedure to ship specimens to Cadham Lab.**

IMPORTANT: Please ensure the requisition, HPV specimen, consent form and survey are labeled with the same requisition number. **ONLY** the consent form will have the participant's name.

6) What follow-up is required?

Women receiving Pap Tests and HPV tests during the clinic may not be patients of your clinic or have a primary health care provider. Some of these women, like any other patient, may require follow up.

Clinics are expected to:

- Provide follow up and retesting of any cytology abnormality as per MCCSP management guidelines
- Follow-up and retest (after 12 months) those women who tested **positive for high-risk HPV types and negative for Pap test cytology.**
- Provide referral to colposcopy for any woman with a high grade abnormal Pap test result (as per MCCSP Management Guidelines), with an abnormal looking cervix, or with any clinically significant signs and symptoms found on the cervix.

7) Will HPV testing be advertised/promoted?

MCCSP will coordinate advertising in local papers and media about Pap Test Day/ HPV testing. Information about HPV testing and participating clinics will be on the CancerCare Manitoba/MCCSP website.

Clinics assist with promotion by:

1. Informing other health providers, key community agencies/businesses about HPV testing being provided during Pap Test Day. HPV testing may draw additional women for Pap tests.
2. Coordinating and distributing the Pap Clinic / HPV Study posters and flyers.
3. Providing other health education/ information about HPV that day, i.e., HPV pamphlets and fact sheets.

CONTACTS:

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