



### **HPV Testing at your Annual Exam**

As part of your Annual Exam, your provider may recommend screening for Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) in addition to a Pap smear. HPV is the virus that is responsible for causing nearly all cases of cervical cancer. Infection with this virus is extremely common with an estimated risk of infection of 80-85% over a lifetime. Most infections resolve over time, but some persist for years. HPV is spread through sexual contact including, but not limited to, vaginal intercourse.

HPV testing is currently recommended for all women over age 30 for a more comprehensive evaluation of the risk of cervical abnormalities. If the Pap test is normal and the HPV test is negative, it may not be necessary to repeat these tests annually. If either the Pap is abnormal, or the HPV test is positive, you may need further testing. It is important to note that while you may only need a Pap test and HPV screening every 3 years, you still need a breast and pelvic exam every year.

Although HPV screening is recommended for women over age 30, not all insurances will cover the cost of this test. If you want to check your insurance coverage prior to your visit, you will need to give your insurance company the CPT procedure codes listed below. If your insurance does not cover the cost of this screening test, you will need to contact Sparrow Laboratories for any questions regarding cost as this is billed through the lab, not through Alliance.

Pap CPT code 88175

HPV CPT code 87625