

Newer Weapon In Fight Against Cervical Cancer

(NAPSA)—A newer way to test for cervical cancer could help save thousands of lives and reduce much needless worry for millions of women. That good news is prompting many women to make an appointment for a check-up. Many women are also seeking out a new Web site with extensive information on the primary cause of cervical cancer, human papillomavirus (HPV). Some 13,000 women in the United States will be diagnosed with cervical cancer this year alone, and 4,400 will die, according to the American Cancer Society. Surprisingly, a recent survey found that only one in five women know that HPV is the primary cause of cervical cancer. Yet HPV testing could help the two to three million women who receive inconclusive results following their routine Pap test each year—results which can lead to over-treatment and unnecessary patient anxiety. To help women find out more about HPV testing, a new Web site, www.thehpvtest.com offers:

- Links to numerous independent, non-profit organization sites that provide information about cervical cancer and HPV.
- An overview of recently published studies on HPV and cervical cancer.
- Facts, definitions and Q&A's about cervical cancer, abnormal Pap test results and HPV testing.
- Questions women may wish to ask their doctor regarding HPV and cervical cancer.

“Every woman should know that HPV is the primary cause of cervical cancer and that testing for HPV can offer her better protection against developing cervical cancer,” says Diane McGrory, M.D., of Gynecology Partners, P.C. in Weston, Mass. “When a woman has an inconclusive Pap test



Knowing the facts about HPV testing may help many women take better control over their own health, experts agree.

result, an HPV test can give her doctor and her better, faster answers about her cervical cancer risk. HPV testing should be able to reduce unnecessary anxiety for a lot of women.” The new Web site was created by Digene Corporation, a leader in the development and manufacture of gene-based testing systems for the screening, monitoring and diagnosis of women’s cancers and infectious diseases, including the Hybrid Capture® 2 HPV DNA Test for the primary cause of cervical cancer.

Numerous clinical trials, including a recent National Cancer Institute study, have confirmed that HPV testing using the Hybrid Capture® 2 HPV DNA Test is the best way to manage patients with inconclusive Pap results. Furthermore, a recent study in the *American Journal of Obstetrics & Gynecology* showed that many physicians over-treat patients with inconclusive Pap results. To find out more about HPV testing, visit www.thehpvtest.com.