



FAQ:

Cervical Cancer Screening

✓ Getting Started

Do I have to pay for Color’s cervical cancer screening?

Testing and virtual visits provided by the Color care team are at no cost to you. Any additional testing or clinical visits that are not provided directly by your Color care team will need to be covered by you or your insurance. Your care advocate can help you understand any costs that may be incurred.

What is HPV?

Human papillomavirus (HPV) is a common virus that spreads through intimate skin-to-skin contact. It is known to increase the risk of cervical cancer. For more information, please talk to your healthcare provider.

How can I learn more about HPV and cervical cancer?

Human Papillomavirus (HPV) is a virus that can increase risk for cervical cancer. About 85% of people in the US will become infected with HPV in their lifetime ([CDC](#)). You can find more information [here](#).

HPV is spread most commonly through sexual contact. Many people have HPV and don’t know it.

Most HPV infections don't lead to cancer. However, some infections linger for many years undetected and can develop into cervical cancer.

What is the difference between an HPV test and a Pap test?

An HPV test is a molecular test that detects the presence or absence of viral HPV DNA in a patient’s sample. Color’s HPV test is performed on a vaginal swab sample, which can be collected at home.

A Pap test, or Pap smear, is a procedure that involves collecting cells from the cervix – the lower, narrow end of the uterus that's at the top of the vagina. These cells are then examined by a healthcare provider to look for signs of cervical cancer. A Pap test must be performed by a healthcare provider as part of an in-person appointment.

Either HPV testing or Pap tests are [recommended](#) as appropriate first-line screenings for cervical cancer.

How will I benefit from self-collection?

Self-collection helps you in these ways:

- It is an easy way to stay up-to-date with your cervical cancer screening. Screening can help find cancer early.
- It lets you safely collect your own sample in private. You can do the screening at a time that works for you.
- It allows you and your healthcare provider to make decisions about your care based on your test results.

Can I do a cervical cancer screening other than an at-home HPV test?

To discuss your screening options, click “Schedule a Virtual Visit” from your [dashboard](#). For more information, see “[Learn more about cervical cancer screening](#).”

How do I do a cervical cancer screening at home?

With Color’s cervical cancer screening you will do an at-home vaginal swab. The lab will check your vaginal swab for high-risk strains of HPV.



Activating and Collecting Your Sample

How do I connect my sample with my account online for my at-home HPV test?

Connecting your sample with your account is required. If you don’t do it, the lab will not know that the sample is yours and you will not get your results. The process is quick and easy.

Start at color.com/test/activate. You will be asked to enter the barcode that you’ll find on the instructions inside your kit. You’ll log in to your Color account, or create one if you don’t already have one. Then we’ll ask you a few questions and confirm your contact information.

Then you can collect your sample!

What if I do not register my kit?

You will not get results if you do not register your kit with the barcode provided. The lab will not be able to test your sample, and you will need a new kit to collect a new sample.

How do I collect my vaginal swab sample for my at-home HPV test?

You can watch a video about how to collect your sample [\[VIDEO\]](#).

How safe is self-collection of vaginal samples?

In the Onclarity Self-Collection Kit study, there were no serious safety concerns. You may notice these minor things:

- You may feel mild discomfort during the collection.
- A little bleeding or spotting can happen. This is not common but may occur.

Call your healthcare provider if you have heavy bleeding or if any bleeding lasts more than 24 hours.



What happens if I accidentally drop the swab?

If you drop the swab at any time, throw it away. Call our support number **(844) 352-6567** or email support@color.com to get a new collection kit.

What happens if I don't return the sample within 24 hours after collection?

If you do not return your sample within 24 hours after collection, the lab will not be able to test it.

You will need a new kit to collect a new sample.



Returning your kit

How do I return my kit for my at-home HPV test?

Once you've collected your sample, put the swab back into the original tube and securely seal it. Place the tube into the biohazard bag included in your kit, ensuring that the tube is inserted into the rigid plastic holder inside the bag. Then seal the biohazard bag.

Place the sealed biohazard bag into the cardboard box and close the box securely. Then place the box into the return mailer bag and seal it. Finally, drop off your sample at a [FedEx dropoff location](#).

Can I still connect my sample with my account after I shipped the sample?

If you have sent your sample to the lab recently, you can still fill out your information online as long as you have kept your barcode card and your sample has not reached the lab.

To find out the delivery status of your sample, contact Color Support at support@color.com or **(844) 352-6567**. Our hours are 6am-5pm PT, daily.



Getting your results

When will I receive my results for my at-home HPV test?

Most people will receive results about 3-5 days after their sample arrives at the lab, but this time may vary.

When your results are ready you will receive an email and a text message. You can sign in to your account at color.com and see your results. You may also get a call from your Color care team to discuss your results.

How will I receive my result?

You'll get an email when your results are available in Color's secure portal.

What happens if I get a positive result for my at-home HPV test?

Your result will tell you if you have tested positive for a high-risk strain of HPV. A positive high-risk HPV result means that you have an increased risk of developing cervical cancer. It does NOT mean that you currently have cancer. If you received a positive HPV test, you will get a call from your Color care team to discuss the result and recommend follow-up care. If you don't have a healthcare provider, we can help you find one.

About the test

How does a self-collected sample compare to a clinician-collected sample?

In a US study of individuals representative of the general cervical cancer screening population, when collected with the Onclarity™ Self-Collection Kit and tested with the BD Onclarity™ HPV Assay, vaginal samples detected HPV in 93% of HPV positive clinician-collected cervical samples. No cancer screening is 100% accurate. Confirm with your healthcare provider to ensure this collection kit is the best option for you.

How accurate is Color's HPV test?

Color's HPV Test uses the FDA-approved BD Onclarity HPV Assay to detect high-risk HPV types associated with cervical cancer using self-collected vaginal swab samples. The test also includes built-in specimen adequacy control to ensure samples are suitable for testing. Studies have shown self-collected vaginal swab specimens demonstrated strong agreement with clinician-collected cervical specimens when tested using the BD Onclarity HPV assay on the BD Viper LT System.

In a US study of individuals representative of the general cervical cancer screening population, when collected with the Onclarity™ Self-Collection Kit and tested with the BD Onclarity™ HPV Assay, vaginal samples detected HPV in 93% of HPV positive clinician-collected cervical samples. No cancer screening is 100% accurate but this data supports the use of self-collected vaginal swab specimens as a reliable option for at-home cervical cancer screening.

What are the technical details of Color's HPV test?

Self-collected vaginal swab samples are processed in Color's CLIA-certified and CAP-accredited labs. Color's test uses the BD Onclarity™ Human papillomavirus (HPV) assay, which has been cleared by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for use with vaginal swab specimens. This assay is a qualitative in vitro test that uses polymerase chain reaction (PCR) amplification and nucleic acid hybridization to detect DNA from 14 high risk HPV types in a single analysis

High-risk HPV (hrHPV) types 16, 18, and 31, 45, 51 and 52 are individually reported. Detection of the remaining hrHPV types are reported in genotype groups: 33/58, 35/39/68, and 56/59/66 but are not individually reported (these are referred to as "other high-risk HPV types" on the report).



Help & Support

Who should I contact for help with the Color's Cervical Cancer Screening Kit?

Please email support@color.com or call (844) 352-6567 at 6am-5pm PT, daily.