

KNOW THE KEY FACTS VAGINAL AND VULVAR CANCER

Vaginal cancer begins in the vagina, the muscular tube that connects the outer part of the female genitalia (vulva) to the uterus. Learn more at the FWC [vaginal cancer](#) web page.

The vulva includes the labia majora (outer lips), the labia minora (inner lips), the clitoris and the opening of the vagina. Vulvar cancer most often affects the inner edges of the labia majora or the labia minora. Learn more about this disease at the FWC [vulvar cancer](#) web page.

Symptoms of Vaginal Cancer

- Unusual vaginal bleeding (i.e. between menses, after intercourse, new postmenopausal bleeding)
- Pain (vaginal, vulvar, lower abdominal/pelvic, back or flank)
- Problems with urination or bowel movements
- Watery discharge
- Lump or mass in the vagina

Symptoms of Vulvar Cancer

- Bump or lump with wart-like or raw surfaces
- Chronic itching (more than 1-2 weeks)
- Pain or burning
- Abnormal bleeding or discharge
- Skin color changes (lighter or darker, red or pink)
- Ulcer or open sore
- Cauliflower-like growths

What can you do to prevent or detect vaginal or vulvar cancer early?

- Get the human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine approved for patients up to age 46
- Schedule regular check-ups, including pelvic exams
- Use a mirror to examine your vulva for any changes
- See a doctor if you experience any symptoms