



1 **NJAFP 2026 Resolution 2**

2 **Proposed by Catherine Casado-Pabon, MD & Jeffrey Levine, MD, MPH**

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4 **Title:** Ensuring Family Physicians Adopt Updated, Evidence-Based, & Patient-Centered  
5 Recommendations for Cervical Cancer Screening

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7 **WHEREAS**, U.S. cervical cancer rates have decreased at the population level particularly  
8 amongst individuals with a cervix aged 20-29, for whom there has been a 27% decline in  
9 cervical cancer incidence (1, 2) and an 80% decrease in higher-grade precancer incidence  
10 in those aged 20-24 (3), and,

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12 **WHEREAS**, most Family Physicians have adopted the 2018 U.S. Preventive Services Task  
13 Force recommendations for cervical cancer screening which advise, “*screening for cervical*  
14 *cancer in women age 21 to 65 years with cytology (Pap smear) every 3 years or, for women*  
15 *ages 30 to 65 years who want to lengthen the screening interval, screening with a*  
16 *combination of cytology and HPV testing every 5 years” (4), and,*

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18 **WHEREAS**, the newly updated (December 2025) American Cancer Screening guidelines for  
19 cervical cancer screening advise individuals with a cervix at average risk for cervical cancer  
20 should begin screening at age 25 and continue until at least age 65 at 5-year intervals  
21 utilizing HPV-only testing (preferred) or co-testing, or at 3-year intervals for cytology alone  
22 or self-collected vaginal HPV testing (5), and,

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24 **WHEREAS**, with significantly lower rates of cervical precancer and cancer incidence  
25 amongst individuals with a cervix aged 20-24 due in large part to HPV-vaccination (6),  
26 alongside potential for improved cervical cancer screening access with utilization of FDA-  
27 approved self-collected vaginal HPV testing (7) and prospective reduction in harm with  
28 reducing over-screening and over-diagnosis of low-risk patients, now therefore be it,

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30 **RESOLVED**, that the American Academy of Family Physicians will adopt and promote the  
31 December 2025 American Cancer Screening guidelines for Cervical Cancer Screening.

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33 Citations:

34 1. Liao C, Francoeur AA, Kapp DS, Caesar MAP, Huh WK, Chan JK. Trends in Human  
35 Papillomavirus–Associated Cancers, Demographic Characteristics, and  
36 Vaccinations in the US, 2001-2017. *JAMA Netw Open*. 2022;5(3):e222530.  
37 doi:10.1001/jamanetworkopen.2022.2530

38 2. <https://pressroom.cancer.org/declines-in-cervical-cancer-hpv-vaccine>

39 3. <https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/74/wr/mm7406a4.htm>

40 4. <https://www.aafp.org/family-physician/patient-care/clinical-recommendations/all-clinical-recommendations/cw-pap-smears.html>

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- 42 5. [https://www.cancer.org/cancer/types/cervical-cancer/detection-diagnosis-  
44 staging/cervical-cancer-screening-guidelines.html](https://www.cancer.org/cancer/types/cervical-cancer/detection-diagnosis-<br/>43 staging/cervical-cancer-screening-guidelines.html)
- 44 6. <https://pressroom.cancer.org/declines-in-cervical-cancer-hpv-vaccine>
- 45 7. [https://www.hrsa.gov/about/news/press-releases/new-cervical-cancer-screening-  
guidelines](https://www.hrsa.gov/about/news/press-releases/new-cervical-cancer-screening-<br/>46 guidelines)