



# Cancer Screening & Cervical Cancer

**National Health Mission  
Deptt. of Health & Family Welfare  
Govt. of Odisha.**

# What is Cancer?

- Cancer is a disease caused by uncontrolled division of cells in any part in the human body.
- Normally the cell growth is kept under control by the body's immune system. It is only when these cells start to divide uncontrollably, forming lumps or growths, that Cancer is caused.
- Growths like this are called tumours. There are two types of tumours malignant (cancerous) and benign (non-cancerous) tumours.
- A malignant tumour never stops growing and can:
  - ❖ Spread into the surrounding tissue.
  - ❖ Destroy the surrounding tissue.
  - ❖ Cause other tumours to develop.

# Screening

- Use of simple tests across a healthy population in order to identify individuals who have disease, but do not yet have symptoms
- Screening in context of cancers aims to detect precancerous changes, which, if not treated, may progress to cancer.
- A screening program is effective only if there is a well organized system for follow-up and management of screen detected lesions

# Rationale of screening for Breast, Cervical and Oral cancers

- Most prevalent cancers- public health priority
- High cost of treatment – mostly out of pocket expenditure
- Amenable to prevention ( oral and cervix ) or early detection (breast)
- Simple, sensitive and cost effective tools available for screening or early diagnosis.
- Standard protocols are in place for management of screen detected precancerous and cancerous lesions
- High cure rates if detected in early stages

# Screening of common cancers

**Table 9: Screening and follow up processes for Common Cancers (Cervix, Breast and Oral)'**

Cancer type	Age of beneficiary	Methods of screening	Frequency of screening	If positive
Cervical	30-65 years	Visual Inspection with Acetic Acid (VIA)	Once in 5 years	Referred to the CHC/DH/GH for further evaluation and management of pre-cancerous conditions where gynaecologist/trained Lady Medical Officer is available.
Breast	30-65 years	Clinical Breast Examination (CBE)	Once in 5 years	Referred to surgeon at CHC/DH/GH for confirmation using a Breast ultra sound probe followed by biopsy as appropriate.
Oral	30-65 years	Oral Visual Examination (OVE)	Once in 5 years	Referred to Surgeon/Dentist/ENT specialist/Medical officer at CHC/DH/GH for confirmation and biopsy.

# Common Sign & Symptoms of cervical cancer

- Vaginal bleeding between periods.
- Menstrual periods that are longer or heavier than usual.
- Postmenopausal bleeding.
- Bleeding after sexual intercourse.
- Pain during sexual intercourse.
- Smelly vaginal discharge.

# Common Sign & Symptoms of cervical cancer

- Unusual vaginal discharge tinged with blood.
- Backache.
- Lower abdominal pain.
- Fatigue/extreme tiredness.
- Unexplained weight loss.
- Pain in legs.
- Pain during urination.

# Risk factors for cervical cancer

- Human papillomavirus (HPV) infection.
- Smoking.
- Young age at first sexual activity.
- Multiple sexual partners.
- Unprotected sex or poor sexual hygiene
- Early marriage.
- Early childbirth- in women younger than 17 years.
- Frequent child birth.
- Weakened immune system such as HIV/AIDS.



*Thank you*