



9195 Grant Street, Suite 410
Thornton, CO 80229
Phone: 303-280-2229(BABY)
Fax: 303-280-0765

300 Exempla Circle, Suite 470
Lafayette, CO 80026
303-665-6016
303-665-0121

6363 West 120th Avenue, Suite 300
Broomfield, CO 80020
303-460-7116
303-460-8204

www.whg-pc.com

PAP SMEAR

What is a Pap smear?

This is a screening test from the cells of the cervix and the vagina that is done by looking at these cells by cytopathologist (a specially-trained medical doctor that works in a laboratory) for precancerous or cancerous changes.

Could I have cancer of the cervix and not know it?

Yes...often there is no pain; this kind of cancer kills many women every year. Regular pap smears can detect precancerous and cancerous changes of the cervix early so there is a better chance for cure.

How often should I get a Pap test?

Get a Pap test every year, unless your doctor recommends more frequently or less frequently. Every woman who is sexually active or 18 years or older should have a Pap smear.

How is the Pap test done?

The nurse or doctor wipes a swab on the cervix in your vagina. This requires a speculum examination. The Pap smear takes only a few minutes to be completed.

Who needs a Pap test?

- If you are over 18, or
- If you are 18 or under and have sex

Even women who have gone through the change of life (menopause) or have had a hysterectomy need a regular Pap test, usually every three years (ask your provider).

Why is a Pap test important to me?

Because it can tell if you have cancer of the cervix early...while it's still easier to cure. It can save your life!