

# PAP TEST

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## Questions and Answers

### What is a Pap Test?

The Pap test is a way to examine cells collected from the cervix and vagina. It can show the presence of infection, inflammation, abnormal cells, or cancer. A Pap test and pelvic exam are important parts of a woman's routine health care.

### What is a Pelvic Exam?

In a pelvic exam, the uterus, vagina, ovaries, fallopian tubes, bladder, and rectum are felt to find any abnormality in their shape or size. During a pelvic exam, an instrument called a speculum is used to widen the opening of the vagina so that the upper portion of the vagina and the cervix can be seen.

### Why are a Pap test and pelvic exam important?

As with many types of cancer, cancer of