

**What You Need
to Know About**

Your Pap Exam



What Is a Pap Exam?

- A **Pap exam (Pap test)** is part of a pelvic exam, which involves checking your sex organs.
- The Pap test is used to examine tiny samples of your **cervix** and **vagina** to check for signs of cancer and infection.
- Your cervix is the opening from your **uterus** to your **vagina**. It's an area where cancer can begin.
- A pelvic exam and Pap test don't affect whether or not you are a virgin.



Your Sex Organs

Uterus

Your uterus holds the growing baby during pregnancy.

Cervix

Your cervix is the opening from your uterus to your vagina.

Vagina

Your vagina is the canal between your uterus and the outside of your body.

This booklet is not intended as a substitute for professional medical care. Only your doctor can diagnose and treat a medical problem.

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