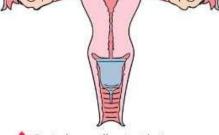
## FEMALE HEALTH & PREVENTIVE HEALTH CARE

## MENSTRUAL HEALTH

## Facts about periods

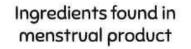


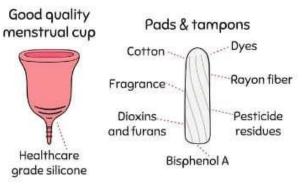
Periods usually start between age 11 and 14 and continue until menopause at about age 51

The average menstrual cycle is 24 to 38 days



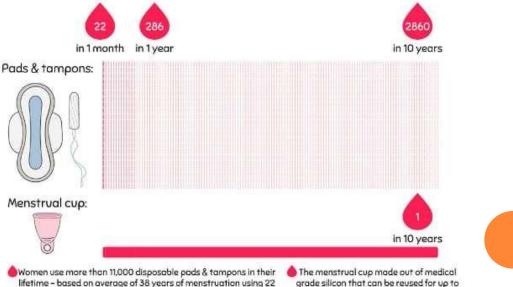
The average menstruating person uses 250 to 300 pounds of tampons, pads and applicators in their lifetime







#### The environmental impact of feminine hygiene products

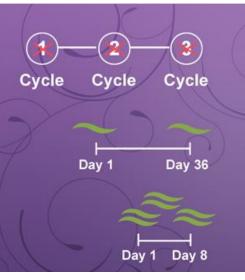


Items of sanitary products per cycle, 13 cycles per year

grade silicon that can be reused for up to 10 years. 4 cups -for all life

### CAUSES OF ABNORMAL PERIODS

- Fluctuating hormones
- Medications
- Major weight gain or loss
- Poor nutrition
- Eating disorders
- Stress
- Fibroids, polyps, endometriosis, ovarian cysts
- Perimenopause



Amenorrhea

Not having any periods for at least 3 menstrual cycles

#### Oligomenorrhea

Having periods more than 35 days apart

#### Menorrhagia

Heavy bleeding that lasts more than a week

#### Signs Your Period Cramps Aren't Normal



Cramps interfere with daily life



No relief from OTC pain meds



**Pelvic discomfort** 



Cramps last for more than 2 or 3 days

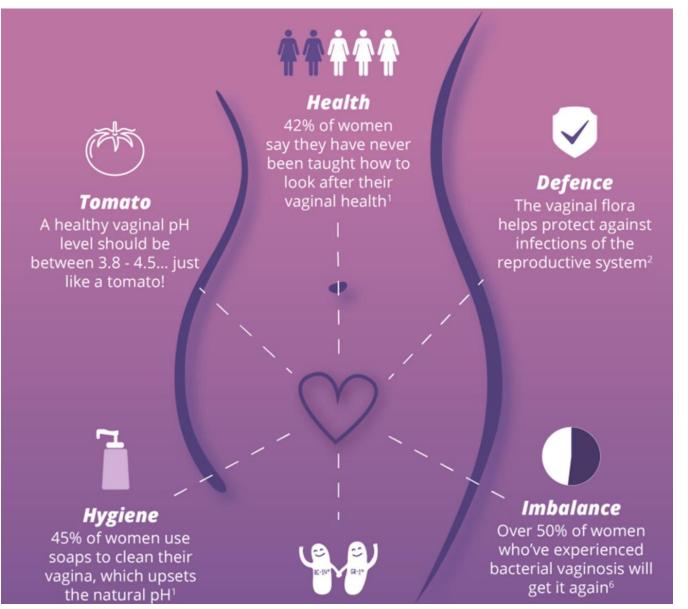


**Cramps feel different** 



# **VAGINAL HEALTH**

## KNOW YOUR VAGINA



## VAGINAL DISCHARGE

V

# Healthy vaginal discharge

- clear or whitish in color
- slight odor that isn't strong smelling
- can leave a yellowish tint on your underwear
- changes in consistency throughout menstrual cycle

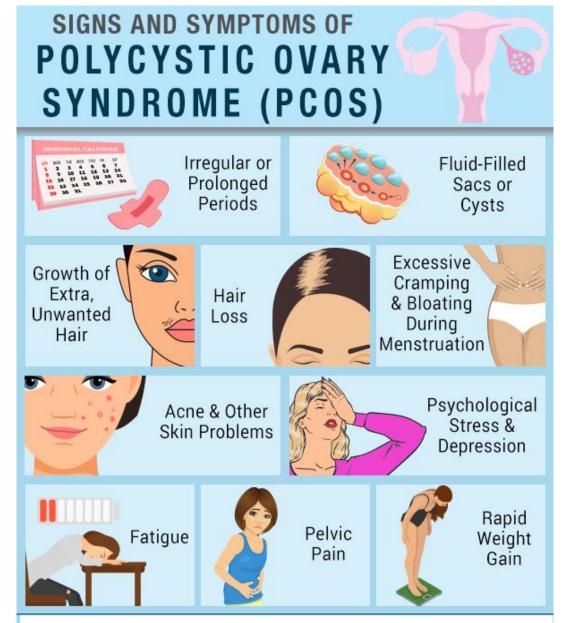
# Abnormal vaginal discharge

#### Talk to your doctor if discharge:

- changes in consistency
- appears yellow, green, or gray
- resembles cottage cheese in color and consistency, and you have vaginal itchiness
- looks foamy or frothy
- has a strong smell of fish, yeast, or another odor
- is brown or blood-stained

See your Doctor!!

## POLYCYSTIC OVARY SYNDROME



## Treatments For Polycystic Ovary Syndrome



**PCOS** affects 1 in 10 women of childbearing age.

#### Signs of PCOS include:

Irregular periods (infrequent, prolonged or heavy)

Excess facial and body hair

Unexplained hair loss

Severe acne

Infertility

Diabetes symptoms (impaired vision, extreme thirst or hunger, unexplained weight loss)

#### PCOS Medications to Regulate Menstrual Periods

Combination progesterone and estrogen birth control pills

Progestin therapy

## PCOS Medications for Ovulation

Clomiphene (Clomid)

Letrozole (Femara)

Gonadotropins

Metformin (Glucophage, Fortamet, etc.)

## PCOS Medications for Hair Growth

Anti-androgen birth control pills Spironolactone (Aldactone) Eflornithine (Vaniqa)

Laser hair removal and electrolysis

#### PCOS Dietary and Lifestyle Adjustments

Weight loss

- Follow a low-carb diet
- Exercise for at least 30 minutes 3 times a week
- Supplement with essential amino acids

#### PCOS DIET

- Gluten free
- Diary free
- Increase lean protein
- Enough dietary fiber
- Reduce sugar intake



# **PREVENTIVE HEALTH CARE**

#### ANNUAL HEALTH SCREENING

- Menstrual problems
- Cancer screening
- General Health screening screen for cardiovascular diseases (blood pressure, lipid profile), diabetes, osteoporosis, thyroid disorders
- ✤ Mental health
- ✤ Other problems urinary complaints, menopausal symptoms etc.
- Vaccinations
- Weight control- Diet, maintain BMI, exercise
- Supplements- Vitamin B, D3, Calcium

## **CANCER SCREENING**

## WHAT IS CANCER SCREENING?

Cancer screening involves efforts to detect premalignant conditions in the body (i.e. conditions which may proceed to cancer if not treated).

- Physical examination
- Blood tests
- Radiological imaging.

## **INDIAN SCENARIO**

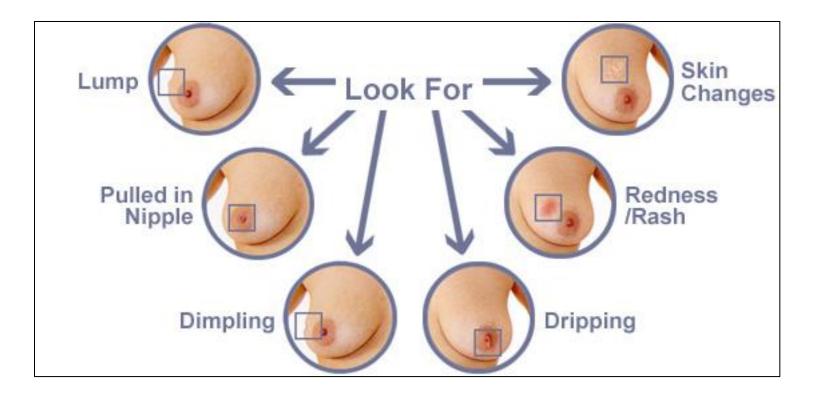
• BREAST CANCER- most common cancer in females

• CERVICAL CANCER- 2<sup>ND</sup> most common cancer in females.

### • ENDOMETRIAL CANCER

• OVARIAN CANCER- rising trend

#### **BREAST CANCER**



### **RISK FACTORS**

• Age: commonly 40-50 years

• Family history and genetics: BRCA1 (55%-65%) and BRCA 2(45%) genes

• Menstrual history- early periods, late menopause, having child at older age, never borne a child

• Environmental factors: drinking, obesity, unhealthy diet, lack of physical activity

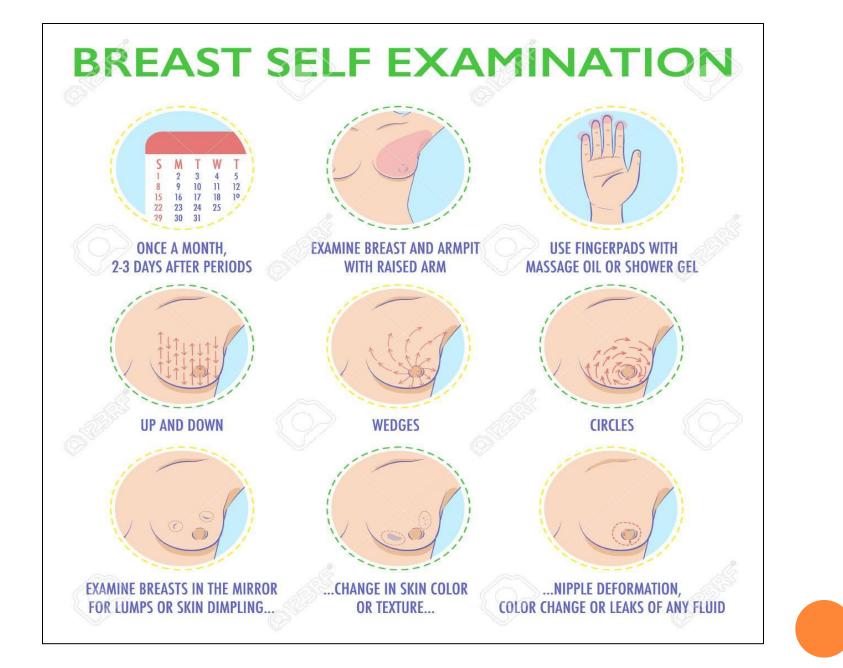
## SCREENING

• Self breast examination : after 20 years of age

1. <u>premenopausal</u>- same time of the month, postmenstrual preferably Day 10 of menses

2. <u>postmenopausal</u>- same day every month

- Clinical Breast Examination by doctors once a year after 30 years of age.
- Screening Mammography- Depending on risk factors. WHO recommends after 50 years every 1-2 years.



# **CERVICAL CANCER- SYMPTOMS**

- Bleeding after intercourse
- Irregular bleeding in between menses
- Heavy or prolonged bleeding
- Postmenopausal bleeding
- Vaginal discharge
- Rectal bleeding
- Weakness, weight loss, loss of appetite
- Asymptomatic



## HIGH RISK FACTORS

- HPV infection
- Multiple sex partners
- Multiple births
- Cigarette smoking
- Poor personal hygiene

## **HOW TO PREVENT IT ?**

- Primary prevention :
- ✤ Safe sex practices
- ✤ Barrier contraceptives
- Early treatment of reproductive tract infections.
- ✤ HPV vaccination

### VACCINATION

- 2 doses (0,6) : 9-14 yrs of age
- 3 doses (0,2,6) beyond 15 yrs of age.
- Pap smear screening must be continued as per schedule even after taking HPV vaccine.

#### <u>VACCINATION IS NOT A REPLACEMENT FOR CERVICAL CANCER</u> <u>SCREENING</u>

• Secondary prevention:

#### ✤ PAP SMEAR

HPV DNA testing

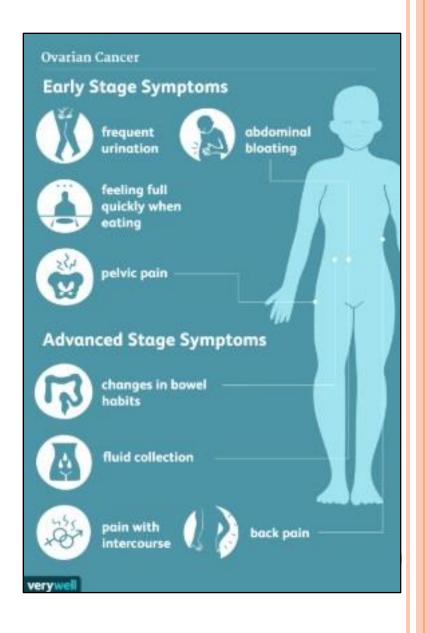
#### PAP SMEAR

AGE	Pap smear	HPV TEST
21-29 yrs	3 YEARLY	NOT RECOMMENDED
30-65yrs	3 YEARLY	CO TESTING (PAP+ HPV) EVERY 5 YEARS
>65yrs	NO TESTING REQUIRED IF ADEQUATE PRIOR SCREENING IS NEGATIVE	

## **OVARIAN CANCER**

• No DEFINITIVE screening tests

• Pelvic examination, ultrasound and blood tests as advised by gynecologist



## **ENDOMETRIAL CANCER**

#### SYMPTOMS

Postmenopausal bleeding Abnormal bleeding

#### NO DEFINITIVE SCREENING TESTS

• ENDOMETRIAL SAMPLING

• PELVIC ULTRASOUND

