CERVICAL CANCER IN VOLUSIA COUNTY

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) report that annually about 12,000 women in the U.S. are diagnosed with cervical cancer and roughly 4,000 women die from it; in 2015 the death rate was 2.3 per 100,000 women. The human papillomavirus (HPV), CDC emphasizes, is the main cause of cervical cancer. The American Cancer Society (ACS) adds that women who smoke, have HIV or AIDS, have poor nutrition, and do not get regular Pap tests are more likely to develop cervical cancer. Yet, according to CDC, with the advent of screening tests, such as the Pap Smear, and the HPV vaccine, cervical cancer is highly preventable in western countries. Healthy People 2020 (HP2020) has identified reducing cervical cancer deaths to 2.2 per 100,000 females and new diagnoses of cervical cancer to 7.3 per 100,000 females as national objectives.

† Volusia County’s age-adjusted death rates due to cervical cancer decreased 37.9% from 2012 to 2016 falling below the national target in 2016

† The age-adjusted incidence (newly diagnosed cases) rate of cervical cancer in Volusia County increased by 273.2% from 2010 to 2014

† Volusia County’s incidence rate in 2014 was more than twice the national target and nearly doubled Florida’s rate

♦ The percent of cervical cancer deaths in white and black women decreased 42.4% and 27.5% respectively from 2012 to 2016

♦ Cervical cancer age-adjusted death rates for black women were higher than white and Hispanic women in four of the five years

NOTE: Age-adjusting: The frequency with which health events occur is almost always related to age. The age-adjusted rate eliminates the effect of the underlying age distribution of the population, allowing for comparisons between populations regardless of their age structure.
The Southeast quadrant had the largest decrease (45.8%) in deaths due to cervical cancer from 2012 to 2016.

The Southwest quadrant’s hospitalization rates due to cervical cancer increased by 193.1% from 2012 to 2016 and the Southeast quadrant had the only decrease (17.9%) in the same period.

The Southeast quadrant’s rate of emergency department visits due to cervical cancer increased by 137.5% from 2012 to 2016.

White women had higher death and hospitalization percentages due to cervical cancer each year compared to the general female population in Volusia County from 2012 to 2016.

Other and Hispanic women were hospitalized and died due to cervical cancer at lower percentages than the general female population each year.

Sources:
Agency for Health Care Administration, ED and Hospitalization datasets, 2012-2016; ACS; CDC; Florida Community Health Assessment Resource Tool Set, www.FLHealthCHARTS.com; Florida Department of Health, Bureau of Vital Statistics, 2012-2016; Healthy People 2020

For more information, contact the Florida Department of Health in Volusia County Office of Planning & Performance Management at 386 274-0500 Ext. 0582 or visit our website, www.volusiahealth.com/stats