



## WHA SANTA MONICA: NEWSLETTER

### JANUARY IS CERVICAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH

HPV is the virus that causes the majority of cervical cancers. There are over 100 different strains of HPV, and only a small handful can cause cancer, and can be detected through pre-cancerous cell changes picked up by a pap smear exam and by looking for high-risk HPV via a DNA co-test.

Two vaccines now exist to help prevent HPV infection: Gardasil and Cervarix.

Gardasil protects against HPV 6, 11, 16 and 18, and is approved for boys and girls aged 9-26. Gardasil provides protection against the two most common strains of HPV causing cervical cancer (16 and 18) and the two most common strains causing genital warts (6 and 11). It is a three dose series given over 6 months.

Cervarix protects against HPV 16 and 18. Cervarix is approved for girls aged 9-25, and is also administered in 3 doses over a 6 month period.

Gardasil and pap smears with HPV co-testing are both offered here at Women's Healthcare Associates.

Questions? Call the office, or come on in!



DR. LILLIAN MORRIS, DR DORON BLUMENFELD, DR OLIVIA CROOKES AND DR PAULA SHULMAN

### WHAT'S NEW AT WOMEN'S HEALTHCARE ASSOCIATES?

[www.website.com](http://www.website.com)

Did you know we now offer **Verifi** prenatal testing?

Verifi is a non-invasive prenatal test that can be performed as early as 10 weeks gestation to detect fetal chromosomal aneuploidies (Down's syndrome, Trisomy 18 and 13), as well as sex chromosome abnormalities.

Verifi can be performed on a singleton or twin pregnancy, for women aged 35 or older, or who have an abnormal first trimester screen or personal history of a baby with a chromosomal abnormality.

Need more information?

Go to: <http://www.verinata.com> or ask us at your next visit!