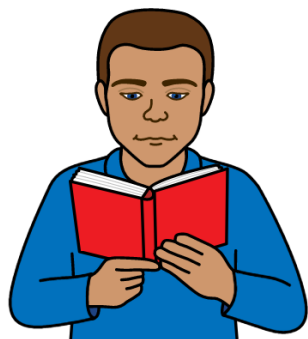


Information about a type of cancer called womb cancer

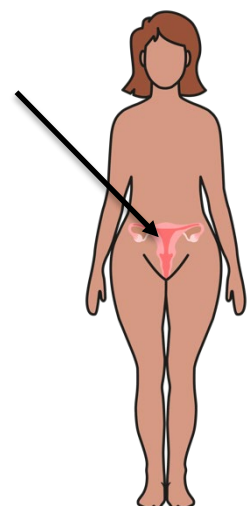
**This information is for women and
people with a womb**





What is in this information

Page



What is womb cancer?

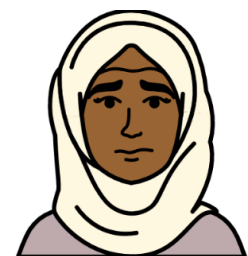
3

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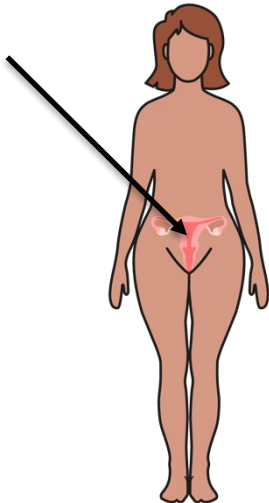
What is womb cancer?



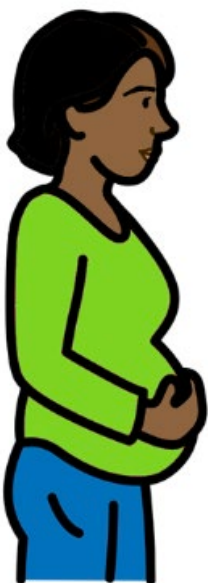
Womb cancer may also be called:

- Uterine cancer
- Or endometrial cancer.

But we will call it womb cancer here.



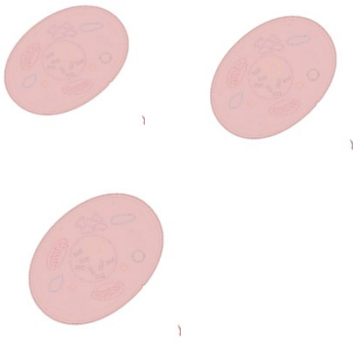
Womb cancer is a cancer that starts in your **womb**.



Your womb is down below in your body.
It is in the lower part of your tummy.

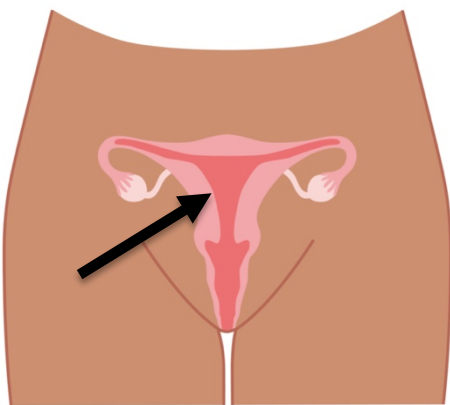
It is where a baby grows when someone is pregnant.

The womb is also called **the uterus** by doctors and nurses.



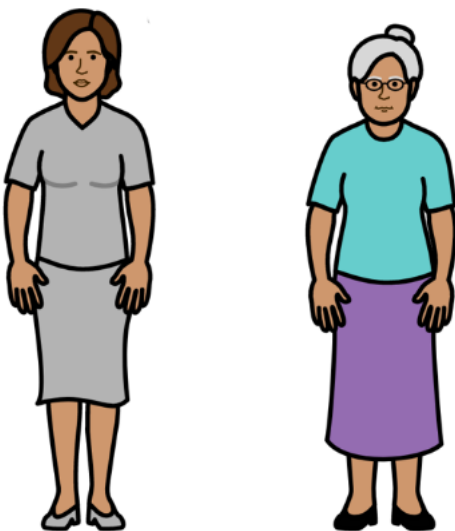
Your womb is made up of lots of small things called **cells**.

Womb cancer can happen if the cells in the womb start to change and grow in the wrong way.



Most womb cancers start in the lining of the womb.

This is at the edge of the womb.

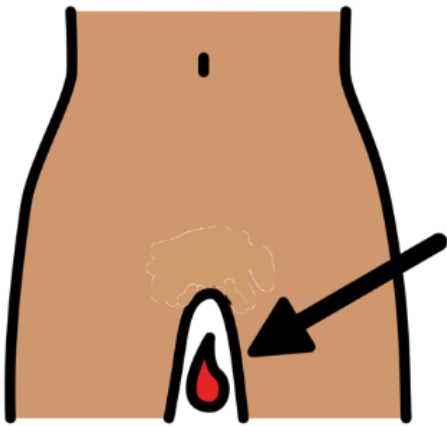


Womb cancer can happen to women and people with a womb at any age.

But it happens more to people over 50 years old after the **menopause**.

The menopause is when women stop having periods for good.

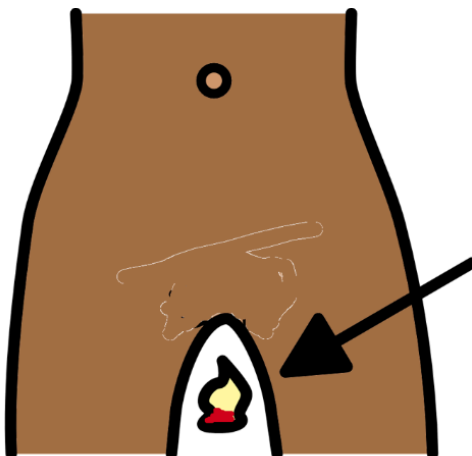
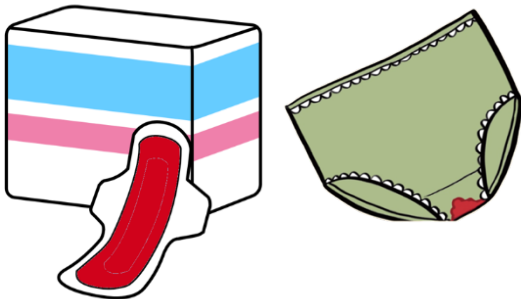
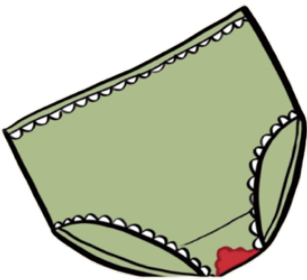
What are the signs of womb cancer?



The main sign is blood coming from your vagina when you do not think there should be blood.

That could be:

- Bleeding after the menopause. This is when you stop having periods for good.
- Bleeding between your periods if you have them.
- Periods that are very heavy for no reason. Or more painful.
- Stuff coming out of your vagina that has blood in it.



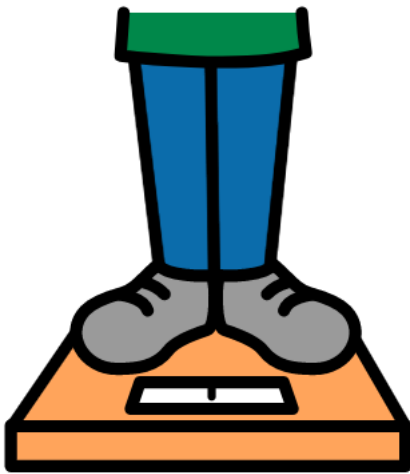
For example, it might be pink, brown or red with some blood in it.

The stuff coming out of your vagina is called **discharge**. It is usually white or clear.



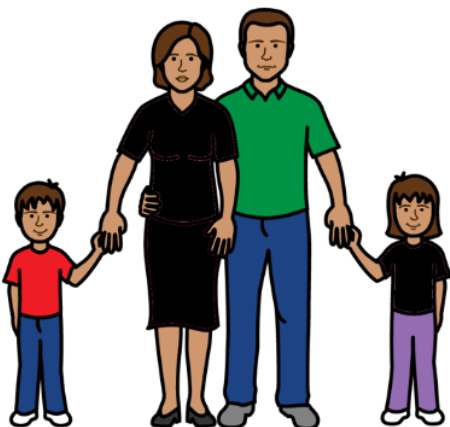
How does womb cancer start?

We do not always know.

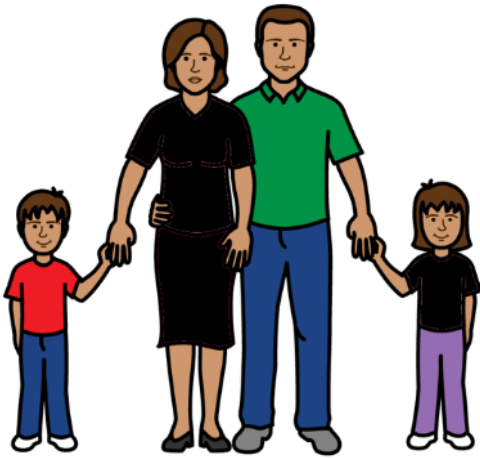


You might be more at risk of womb cancer if:

- You weigh more than you should.
- The edge of your womb is too thick. This is called the **lining**.
- You take medicine called Hormone Replacement Therapy for the menopause.
- You have an illness called diabetes.



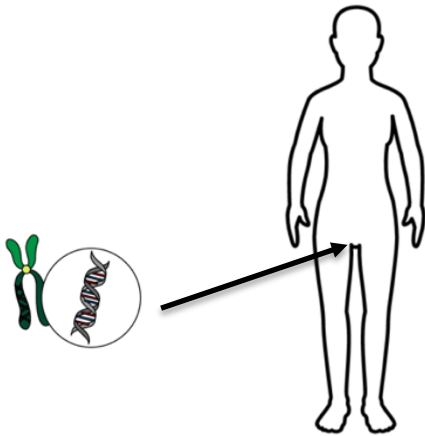
Womb cancer might also happen more to people who have other family members with cancer.



That means other people in their family have had cancers like:

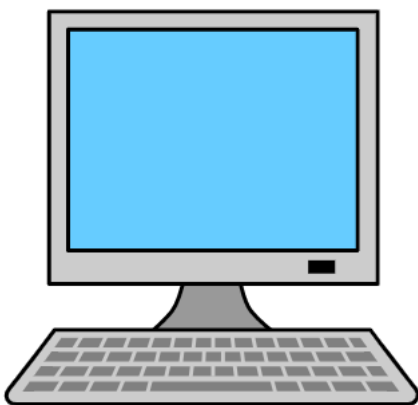
- Bowel cancer
- Womb cancer

Other people in the family means parents, sisters, brothers or children.



Some family members may have a change in their bodies that could cause cancer.

The change is called **Lynch Syndrome**.



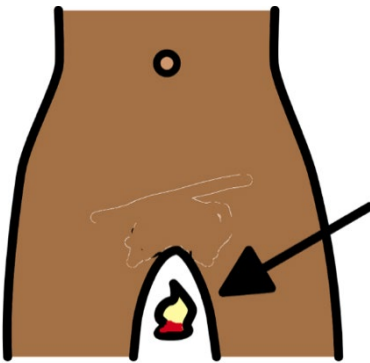
You can find out more about Lynch Syndrome in this leaflet:

<https://eveappeal.org.uk/LynchSyndromeGuide>



What to do if you are worried

It is important to check any new bleeding with your doctor as soon as possible.



That includes any new stuff coming out of your vagina that you are not sure about.

Like anything pink, brown or red with blood in it.

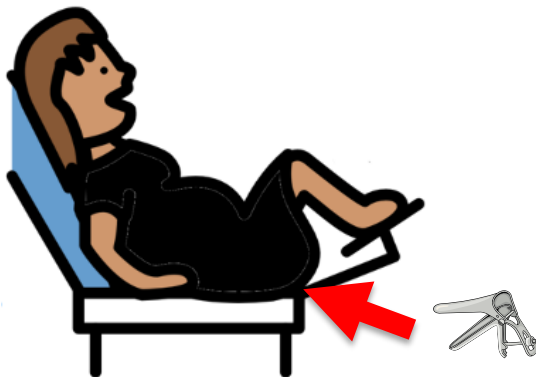
It is probably not womb cancer. But it is best to check.

Have you had a health test called a cervical screening test?

Cervical screening tests are also called **smear tests**.

You should still go to your doctor if you have any new bleeding after your cervical screening test.

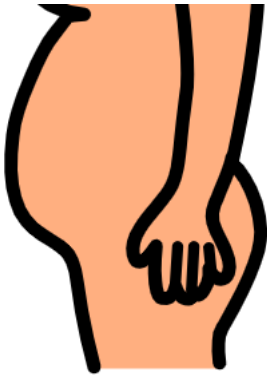
That is because cervical screening tests cannot check for womb cancer.





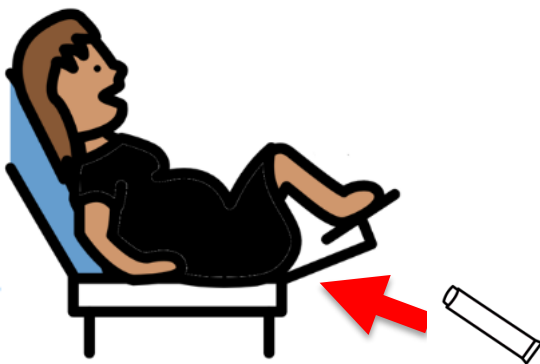
It might help to write down when you are bleeding and how long it lasts.

That will help your doctor to know what is happening.



What might happen if you go to the doctor

Your doctor might check your tummy.



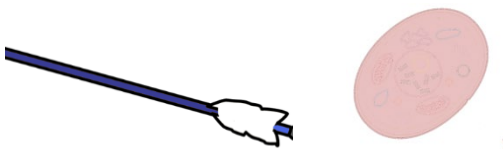
Your doctor might send you for some tests in hospital if they want to find out more.

For example, you might have a test called a **scan**. This will look inside your womb.

Some people might also need a **biopsy**.

This is when doctors take a tiny bit of your womb to look at it more closely.

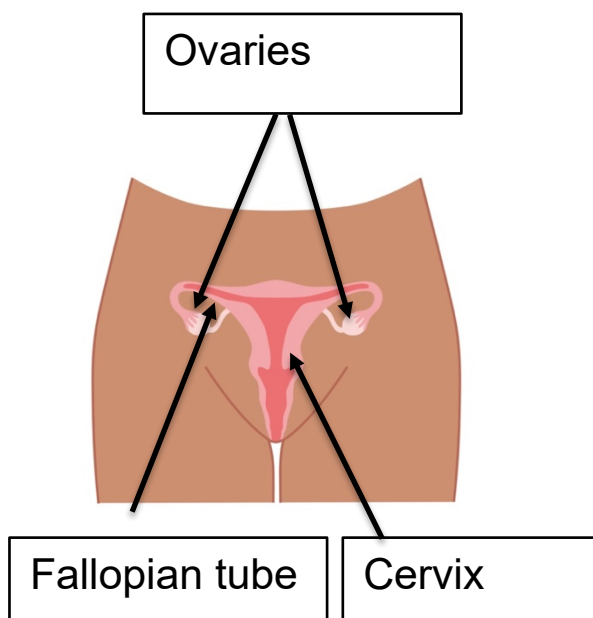
Tell the doctor or nurse if you are worried about anything or have any pain when they do the tests.





What happens if you have womb cancer

You might need an operation to take out your womb and other things near your womb.



The other things near your womb are called:

- Your ovaries
- Your fallopian tubes
- Your cervix.

Sometimes things called lymph nodes are also taken out.

That is to try to get rid of the cancer. And to stop the cancer spreading to other parts of the body.



You cannot get pregnant after this operation.

It will also stop your periods forever if you still have them.

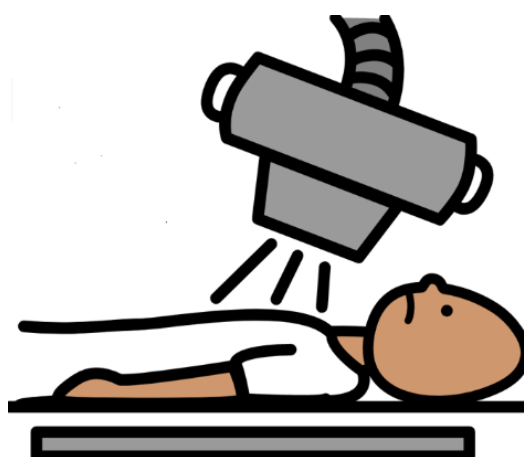
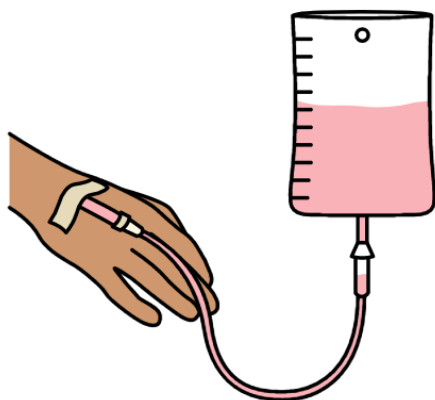
Medical treatment

You might also get medical treatment called:

- **Chemotherapy.** This is usually pills or a liquid to try to get rid of the cancer.
- **Radiotherapy.** This is where a machine is used to try to get rid of the cancer.
- **Or brachytherapy.** This is where a small machine is put into your vagina to get rid of the cancer.

Or you might have all of them.

That can sometimes help to stop the cancer coming back.





How to get more information

We have nurses you can speak to for more information and advice.

This service is private and free.

It is called **Ask Eve**.

Phone us free on: 0808 802 0019



Or email: nurse@eveappeal.org.uk

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