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FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH IN LAKE COUNTY ENCOURAGES CERVICAL CANCER PREVENTION

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Lake County - The Florida Department of Health in Lake County recognizes January as Cervical Cancer Awareness month.

According to the Centers of Disease Control (CDC), all women are at risk for breast and cervical cancer but regular screenings can prevent or detect these diseases early.

"Prevention is the key," said Aaron Kissler, Administrator of the Florida Department of Health in Lake County. "It's important for women to speak with their medical provider about cervical cancer and what steps they need to take to lower their risk."

Cervical Cancer is the easiest gynecological cancer to prevent with regular Pap tests. Pap test looks for precancers and cell changes on the cervix that can be treated, so that cervical cancer is prevented. The human papillomavirus (HPV) is the main cause of cervical cancer. Talk to a medical provider about when a Pap test is most appropriate for you.

"Cervical cancer prevention not only includes Pap smears and High Risk HPV detection, but also encourages Immunization against the HPV virus in Pediatric and adolescent clinics" said Dr. Jose Perez, Senior Physician of the Florida Department of Health in Lake County.

The department's Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program provides breast and cervical cancer screenings to women ages 50-64 throughout Florida, who are uninsured and at or below the poverty level. The program has 16 lead sites that cover all counties in Florida. For more information about the Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program, visit
http://www.floridahealth.gov/diseases-and-conditions/cancer/breast-cancer/bccedp.html

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