

# Cervical cancer now preventable



Dr Madhu Loomba along with Dr Akanksha and Dr Ruchi addressing presspersons on Saturday  
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**Pioneer News Service | Kanpur**

**C**ervical cancer was the leading cause of death in women and is a major cause of concern in India. In the country, alone over 74,000 women die annually. However, it was now preventable due to the availability of vaccine.

Preventing cervical cancer through vaccination against human papilloma virus, which is the main factor can be termed as a major breakthrough in the field of oncology.

This was stated by noted fertologist and gynaecologist Dr Madhu Loomba while addressing a seminar on 'Cancer awareness and preventive vaccination' at Ulhas at Rave Moti on Saturday. Over 200 women belonging to various organisations like Round Table, Kanpur

Lavania Jaycees and other clubs attended the seminar to discuss cervical cancer.

She said all women were at risk of oncogenic HPV infection throughout their lives and the risk of this infection begins in adolescence and continues till adulthood and thus every woman in the age group of 14- 45 years can get herself vaccinated, which is the optimal age for which a vaccine is available.

She informed that three doses of the vaccines were given as per schedule and there are no side effects and added that vaccination against the most oncogenic strains HPV 16 & 18 has the potential of reducing cervical cancer by approximately 70 per cent.

Dr Madhu Loomba emphasised that the

available vaccine was preventive and not therapeutic.

An interactive session was later held where she affirmed that Madhuraj Women's Health Clinic will make efforts to conduct awareness programmes in order to safeguard health of the society. Dr Akanksha Loomba addressing the gathering informed the nature of the disease, its causes, transmission and clinical manifestation in order to create awareness.

Dr Ruchi Tandon discussed about the various screening modalities available for the primary and secondary prevention of this disease as cervical cancer comes to the forefront clinically only after it has progressed to an advanced stage.