

# HPV in Trans Men: A Critical Analysis of Vulnerabilities and Prevention Strategies

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## ABSTRACT

Human papillomavirus (HPV) is one of the most common sexually transmitted infections (STIs) and is responsible for the majority of cervical cancer (CC) cases worldwide. Although well-established prevention strategies exist for the cisgender population, trans men remain an overlooked group in this context. This paper aims to critically analyze the vulnerabilities of trans men to HPV infection, highlighting structural and social barriers that hinder access to screening, treatment, and management of HPV-related lesions. Studies show that cervical cancer screening uptake among trans men is significantly lower than among cisgender women, due to factors such as discomfort, stigma, and the lack of inclusive healthcare services. In response, this article explores alternative prevention strategies, including self-sampling for HPV detection, healthcare provider training, and the creation of more inclusive clinical environments. Findings suggest that combining trans men's health education, inclusive health policies, and less invasive screening methods may significantly improve HPV prevention and care among trans men, thereby reducing disparities in healthcare access.

**Keywords:** Cervical cancer screening; Gender-affirming healthcare; Health disparities; Sexual health; STI prevention