A 2013 report from the Journal of the National Cancer Institute finds that people with cancer are living longer, but HPV-related cancers are up - including oral cancer in both men and women. The annual report is co-authored by researchers from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the North American Association of Central Cancer Registries, the National Cancer Institute, and the American Cancer Society.

**Keywords**
- Cancer
- Death Rates
- Lung Cancer
- Breast Cancer
- Liver Cancer
- Pancreas Cancer
- Thyroid Cancer
- Kidney Cancer
- Cervical Cancer
- Human Papilloma Virus, HPV
- HPV Vaccine
- Vaccines
- Vaccinations
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- Pap Smears
- Len Lichtenfeld
- American Cancer Society
- Anne Powell
- UMass Memorial
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- Journal of the National Cancer Institute
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CHICAGO MANUAL OF STYLE

Transcript

2013 Report- Cancer Death Rates Continue to Drop

BRIAN WILLIAMS, anchor:
As we mentioned earlier, the story topping health news tonight is a comprehensive look at cancer in this country. It shows death rates are continuing to go down, good news, largely brought on by lifestyle changes, including way fewer people smoking than in past decades. But as doctors like to say, there is specific room for improvement. The report from our Chief Medical Editor, Doctor Nancy Snyderman.

DOCTOR NANCY SNYDERMAN, reporting:
In this latest annual report on the status of cancer in the United States, the good news is that the death rates continue to drop. People living with all cancers are living longer, now a 20-year trend and there's more good news. New cases of lung and colon cancers in both men and women dropped and breast cancer in women has leveled off. But new cases of liver, pancreas, thyroid, and kidney cancers are up attributed in part to our sedentary lifestyle.

DR. LEN LICHTENFELD (American Cancer Society): We don’t know the exact factors that cause obesity to lead to cancer. We had a lot of theories. We had a lot of science to suggest what the causes may be but in reality we don’t know for sure.

DR. SNYDERMAN: As for cervical cancer, considered by many to be a medical success story due to effective screening methods and early detection, new cases are down, but other HPV-related cancers are up, including oral cancer in both men and women.

DR. ANNE POWELL (UMass Memorial Children's Medical Center): Women in this country are so fortunate to have Pap smears readily available to us. Hopefully, as our medical community moves forward, we’ll look toward applying these types of screening techniques toward other types of cancers.
related to HPV.

DR. SNYDERMAN: Cancer experts say there is no uniform test for oral HPV, so screening is not routine. Doctor Powell tells her patients' parents, the HPV vaccine is a critical tool in fighting cancer. The CDC recommends all men and women into their 20’s get the HPV vaccine, three doses over the course of at least six months. But for the vaccine to have the greatest benefit, the CDC recommends vaccinating both boys and girls beginning at ages 11 and 12. Why so early? The vaccine needs to be given before a young person becomes sexually active to give the body a chance to build antibodies to fight HPV once a person is exposed. The belief is that the anticancer HPV vaccine is in fact an investment in the young person’s future and then if we start to vaccinate people--and we only have 32% of girls vaccinated at this point--we will see those rates drop over the next 10 years or so. Brian.

WILLIAMS: And perhaps keep the good news on cancer coming. Nancy, thank you, as always.