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Human Papillomavirus Type 18

National Cancer Institute

Source

National Cancer Institute. *Human Papillomavirus Type 18*. NCI Thesaurus. Code C14377.

A virus comprised of a protein coat (capsid) surrounding a circular, double-stranded DNA organized into coding and non-coding regions, which can induce skin and mucosal epithelial lesions. Human papillomavirus-18 (HPV18) has been directly linked to cervical cancer and plays a role in the pathogenesis of the disease. The virus integrates its DNA at specific chromosomal locations, such as 8q24 and 12q15. The use of molecular markers for HPV18 infection may allow the identification of patients with early stage cervical cancer and those at high risk for disease recurrence.