

Mayo Clinic Minute

Tampon test for endometrial cancer

Video	Audio
Jamie Bakkum-Gamez, M.D.	“This is a regular over-the-counter tampon.”
Vivien Williams	These common items could help prevent and diagnose endometrial cancer.
CLIP 785G0023 at 4:58 Jamie Bakkum-Gamez, M.D.	“There is not a screening test for endometrial cancer.”
Vivien Williams	Mayo Clinic Dr. Jamie Bakkum-Gamez says most cases of endometrial cancer are diagnosed after symptoms, such as irregular bleeding, develop. She and her team are developing the first-ever screening test that women can do on their own, just by using a tampon.
Jamie Bakkum-Gamez, M.D. OB-GYN Mayo Clinic	“Women would be able to self-collect a bio specimen that could then be tested in the lab.”
Vivien Williams	Tampons collect fluid, and if cancer is present, the fluid would contain cancer DNA. Not only can the test detect cancer early, while it’s still curable, but it can also find pre-cancers ...
Jamie Bakkum-Gamez, M.D.	“A woman could potentially undergo a preventative hysterectomy to prevent a life-threatening cancer.”
Vivien Williams	Endometrial cancer develops in the lining of the uterus. And the tampon screening test, which is still in development, has the potential to save lives. For the Mayo Clinic News Network, I’m Vivien Williams.