

## **Soundbite Script – Don't Relax When It Comes to Annual Cancer Screenings**

**Dr. Alyssa Ceilesh, Oncologist, OSF HealthCare**

“I've seen the data from the CDC and national studies that cancer screening overall has been down but specifically with cervical cancer we've seen a reduction in screening by 80 to 90%, which obviously is very significant and if sustained this could lead to misdiagnoses and people being diagnosed at later stages where the disease is harder to control.”

**Dr. Alyssa Ceilesh, Oncologist, OSF HealthCare**

“A lot of my patients are telling me they're still nervous to go out and potentially expose themselves to something or what they term as just a screening sometimes if they don't have symptoms they don't feel the urgency to go. What I always counsel my patients about is it's so important for these screening tests so we identify it before you have symptoms.”

**Dr. Alyssa Ceilesh, Oncologist, OSF HealthCare**

“I would contact my doctor right away if you have any irregular vaginal bleeding, bleeding between menstrual cycles, any unusual pelvic discomfort that doesn't go away after a few days or anything that feels unusual or out of the ordinary for you.”

**Dr. Alyssa Ceilesh, Oncologist, OSF HealthCare**

“You have the power and the tools available to you to help yourself and help prevent this disease from happening to you and to our children, too. There's a lot of cancers we don't have these tools available for so if we have them we should use them.”