# The natural history and epidemiology of HPV and cervical cancer

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#### George Papanicolaou (1883-1962)



Pap smear

- Sample cells from cervix & place on a glass slide/vial
- Detect pre-cancerous and cancerous cells
- First reported in 1928 but not widely used until 1941
- Decreased cervical cancer rates by 70% in the US



#### **Population Effects of Pap Screening**



FIGURE 2. Cervical Cancer Mortality Rates in the United States and in the Netherlands, Age Standardized to the U.S. 2000 Population *Sources:* United States: NCHS, see Altekruse et al. 2010. Netherlands: Statistics Netherlands (CBS) 2010a.

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### Dr. Harald zur Hausen Nobel Prize, 2008



Known Etiology of Cervical Cancer: Human Papillomavirus (HPV) Primary Prevention:

- HPV Vaccination Secondary Prevention:
  - Screening with Pap test, HPV DNA test, VIA

Treatable Pre-Invasive Phase:

- Takes ~10 20y to progress from pre-invasive disease to cancer
- Ablation or Excision



### Human papillomavirus (HPV)

Most common sexually transmitted disease

- Initial infection occurs as a teenager or young adult
- >80% of people will have HPV at some point in their life
- Global prevalence ~12%
  - 79 million Americans are currently infected
  - 14 million new infections/year in the US
  - <5% will have significant pre-cancerous lesions
  - <1% will develop invasive cervical cancer



#### Human papillomavirus

- >100 HPV genotypes
- At least 14 HPV genotypes are considered high risk
- HPV types 16 and 18 cause
  - 70% Cervical cancers
  - >70% Anal cancers in men & women
  - 70% of Oropharynx cancers in men & women
  - 50% Penile cancers
  - 50% Vaginal and vulvar cancers
- HPV types 6 and 11 cause
  - 90% of genital warts
  - Recurrent Respiratory Papillomatosis (RRP)



#### HPV–Associated Cancers in the US 2012-2016

About 44,000 new cases of HPV-associated cancers occurred in the US each year

12,015 cases of cervical cancer

19,000 oropharyngeal cancers (men and women)

~13,000 other cancers (vaginal, vulvar, penile, anus)

34,800 (79%) of these cancers can be directly attributed to HPV

About 32,100 of these cancers can be prevented with the 9-valent HPV vaccine

Viens LJ et al. Human Papillomavirus–Associated Cancers United States, 2008–2012. MMWR Morb Mortal Wkly Rep 2016;65:661–666.

https://www.cdc.gov/cancer/uscs/about/data-briefs/no10-hpv-assoc-cancers-UnitedStates-2012-2016.htm



#### **Average Number of New HPV-Associated** Cancers by Sex in the U.S., 2012-2016 Males (19,113)

Females (24,886)



Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Cancers associated with human papillomavirus, United States — 2010–2014. USCS data brief, no. 1. Atlanta, GA: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. 2017. https://www.cdc.gov/cancer/uscs/about/data-briefs/no10-hpv-assoc-cancers-UnitedStates-2012-2016.htm Berman, Schiller: Cancer 2017;123:2219-29

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### **Natural History of High-Risk HPV**



#### \*\*HPV is necessary but not sufficient to develop cervical cancer

Adapted from: 1. Pagliusi SR, Aguado MT. Vaccine. 2004;23:569–578. 2. Pinto AP, Crum CP. Clin Obstet Gynecol. 2000;43:352–362.

### Human papillomavirus infection

- Infects basal layers of cutaneous and mucosal squamous epithelium, primarily in transition zones (endo-ectocervical junction)
- E6 and E7 are viral oncoproteins expressed with persistent infection and viral replication



Fig. 2. Schematic representation of the HPV infection in cervical mucose and its different potential squamous intrepitelial lesions.

Sanjose. The natural history of human papillomavirus infection. Best Practice & Research Clinical Obstetrics and Gynaecology 47 (2018) 2-13

Li and Xu. Human Papillomavirus-related Cancers. Epidemiology and Molecular Biology 2017: 23-34.



#### Interventions for prevention of cervical cancer





Schiffman and Castle, NEJM, 2005

### **Cervical Cancer Prevention Strategies**



Ino K. (2017) Prevention of Cervical Cancer: Era of HPV Testing and Vaccination. In: Konishi I. (eds) Precision Medicine in Gynecology and Obstetrics. Comprehensive Gynecology and Obstetrics. Springer, Singapore





https://gis.cdc.gov/Cancer/USCS/DataViz.html

#### **Cervical Cancer**

US Incidence/Mortality 7.3/2.3 per 100,000

## ~290,000 women living with cervical cancer in the US

https://seer.cancer.gov/statfacts/html/cervix.html

#### Texas Incidence/Mortality 9.1 (#6 in the US) 2.9 (#8 in the US)



https://www.dshs.texas.gov/tcr/data.shtm

	+		
All Races	7.3	FEMALE	
White	7.2		
Black	8.7		
Asian / Pacific Islander	6.4		
American Indian / Alaska Native	7.9		
Hispanic	9.3		
Non-Hispanic	7.0		

Number of new cases of Cervical Cancer per 100,000 persons by race/ethnicity

13,170 new cases (2019)

https://seer.cancer.gov/statfacts/html/cervix.html SEER 21 2012-2016, Age-Adjusted



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All Races	2.3	FEMALE	
White	2.2		
Black	3.5		
Asian / Pacific Islander	1.7		
merican Indian / Alaska Native	2.8		
Hispanic	2.6		
Non-Hispanic	2.2		

Number of deaths from Cervical Cancer per 100,000 persons by race/ethnicity

4,250 deaths (2019)

https://seer.cancer.gov/statfacts/html/cervix.html SEER 21 2012-2016, Age-Adjusted



#### Percent of New Cases by Age Group: Cervical Cancer



SEER 21 2012-2016, All Races, Females

https://seer.cancer.gov/statfacts/html/cervix.html SEER 21 2012-2016, Age-Adjusted



# Costs of prevention and treatment of HPV related disease in the US

- ~52,000,000 screening tests/year
- 2-3,000,000 women/year have abnormal tests
  - Evaluation requires repeat visits, repeat testing
- ~350,000 women/year will have pre-cancerous lesions that require treatment and follow-up
- Cost of prevention and treatment of HPV related disease
  - ~\$8 billion/year
    - \$1 billion for cancer care
    - \$6.6 billion for screening
    - \$1.2 billion for follow up and treatment of abnormal results

Chesson et al. Estimates of the annual direct medical costs of the prevention and treatment of disease associated with human papillomavirus in the United States.Vaccine 30:2012:6016-6019. Chesson et al. Updated Medical Care Cost Estimates for HPV-associated Cancers: Implications for Cost-Effectiveness Analyses of HPV Vaccination in the United States.Hum Vaccin Immunother 15(7-8), 2019:1942-48.



#### **Age Standardized Incidence of Cervical Cancer**





The Lancet Global Health 2020 8, e191-e203DOI: (10.1016/S2214-109X(19)30482-6

#### Ranking of cervical cancer incidence in women 15-44 years (2018)







Cervix uteri



Bray et al, Global cancer statistics 2018, Cancer 2018

## **HPV Prophylactic Vaccines**

Recombinant L1 capsid proteins that form "virus-like" particles

Non-infectious and non-oncogenic

Antibodies prevent basement membrane binding

Produce higher levels of neutralizing antibody than natural infection

Vaccine not effective to treat an existing infection

#### Available vaccines:

Bivalent : Types 16,18

Quadrivalent: Types 6,11,16,18

Nonavalent: Types 6,11,16,18,31,33,45,52,58



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HPV Virus-Like Particle

## **HPV Vaccine Recommendation**

# Preteens should finish HPV vaccine series by 13<sup>th</sup> birthday

Plus girls 13-26 years old who haven't started or finished HPV vaccine series Plus boys 13-26 years old who haven't started or finished HPV vaccine series

https://www.cdc.gov/hpv/hcp/schedules-recommendations.html



## **Immunization of Boys**

- Prevention of genital warts
- Potential prevention of oropharyngeal, anal, and penile cancer
- Decreased HPV transmission to female partners
- "Herd Immunity" greater protection of the general public decreases infection in those who do not get vaccinated



#### **Dosage and scheduling**

Dose	Age range/ health condition	Schedule
2 dose	• Boys and girls prior to 15 <sup>th</sup> birthday.	0, 6-12 months If 1 <sup>st</sup> & 2 <sup>nd</sup> dose administered <5 months apart a 3 <sup>rd</sup> dose is required.
3 dose	<ul> <li>Boys and girls on or after 15<sup>th</sup> birthday.</li> <li>Immunocompromised – HIV infection, cancer, autoimmune disease.</li> </ul>	0, 1-2, 6 months



### The HPV Vaccine is Safe





# **HPV Vaccine Safety**

#### Adverse Events:

- Injection site soreness
- Headache
- Fatigue
- Dizziness
- Fainting
- Nausea





# Reduced risk of high grade dysplasia

Denmark : Risk of CIN 2/3 significantly reduced among vaccinated women (Baldur-Felskov)

Scotland : Risk of CIN 1/CIN2/CIN3 reduced by 29%, 50% and 55% in women 20-21 (Pollock)

USA: Estimated vaccine effectiveness for prevention of HPV 16/18 attributable CIN 2+ was 21%-72%, with greater reduction for vaccination >48 mos prior to screening (Hariri)

Australia: 73-93% reduction in genital warts (Garland)

JNCI: Journal of the National Cancer Institute, Volume 106, Issue 3, March 2014, djt460,https://doi.org/10.1093/jnci/djt460 Pollock, K., Kavanagh, K., Potts, A. *et al.* Reduction of low- and high-grade cervical abnormalities associated with high uptake of the HPV bivalent vaccine in Scotland. *Br J Cancer* 111, 1824–1830 Clinical Therapeutics/Volume 36, Number 1, 2014 S. Hariri et al. / Vaccine 33 (2015) 1608–1613

# **HPV vaccine is cancer prevention.**

Talk to the doctor about vaccinating your 11–12 year old sons and daughters against HPV.

#UCanStopHPV



Cervical cancer screening recommendations, ACOG, ASCCP, USPSTF			
	ACOG <sup>17</sup>	ASCCP <sup>18</sup>	USPSTF <sup>19</sup>
Pap only	Every 3 years	Every 3 years	Every 3 years
Pap-HPV cotest	Every 5 years, age 30–65	Every 5 years, age 30–65	Every 5 years, age 30–65
High-risk HPV only	Every 3 years, age > 25	Every 3 years, age > 25	Every 5 years, age 30–65

ACOG = American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists; ASCCP = American Society for Colposcopy and Cervical Pathology; HPV = human papillomavirus; USPSTF = US Preventive Services Task Force



# Why We Still Need Screening

- Poor vaccine uptake...but improving
- Existing vaccines do not cover all high-risk HPV types
- Vaccines do not treat pre-existing HPV infections

\*Screening will be necessary for the foreseeable future and is still recommended after vaccination

#### Cervical cancer incidence in USA will decline more rapidly by increasing screening than by increasing HPV vaccination





Courtesy of D. Lowy, NCI

### Sensitivity: CIN2+



### **CIN3+ Risk Following a Negative Test**



Dillner et al., BMJ, 2008

#### Reassurance Following a Negative Test in 1 Million Women Undergoing Routine Screening



Gage et al., JNCI, 2015

#### May 2018: WHO Director General's call to action to eliminate cervical cancer as public health problem





#### **The Architecture to Eliminate Cervical Cancer**

Vision: To build a world without cervical cancer

Threshold: < 4 cases of cervical cancer per 100,000 woman-years



**SDG 2030**: Target 3.4 – 30% reduction in mortality from cervical cancer

The 2030 targets and elimination threshold are subject to revision depending on the outcomes of the modeling and the WHO approval process



### ....they grow up!

#### Vaccinate your kids





### THANK YOU



#### **BACK UP SLIDES**

# **Key Output 2**: Increased coverage of screening & treatment for pre-cancer lesions

#### WHO recommendations

- Women aged 30-49 be screeened at least once in their lifetime for cervical cancer, and rescreened every 5 years.
- HIV positive women should be screened every 3 years
- · Immediate treatment where possible



#### Challenges

- Expensive and complex screen and treat technologies complicate scaling-up
- New or optimized service delivery methods required for LMIC contexts

#### Accelerators

- Sufficient, affordable supply of screen and treat technologies & products
  - Prompt certification of new products
  - Price reductions
- National scale-up of screen & treat
  - Simple algorithms need to be introduced for different settings
- Increased quality and coverage of service delivery
  - Countries detailed implementation plans to introduce and scale-up products and delivery models
  - Strengthen patient retention and linkage to treatment



#### **Comparison of Cervical Cancer Screening Tests**

	Pap smear (cytology)	VIA	HPV testing
Cost	Moderate (\$10-\$15/test)	Low (<\$5/test)	High, but lower in new formats (<\$10/test)
Provider	Cytotechnologist and cytopathologist	Nurses or mid- level providers	Lab technician
Training/QA	++ (Significant)	++ (Significant)	+ (Limited)
Sensitivity	60-80%	50-80%	80-95%
Specificity	85-95%	70-80%	80-90%
Min. # of visits	2	1	1-2
Linking screening & treatment	Not possible in same visit	Immediate treatment possible	Possible in same visit or on same-day
Home testing	Not possible		Self sampling possible
Inter-obs.variation	++ (Significant)		+ (Minimal)
Reproducibility	Limited, unless using with digital imaging		Easily achievable
Technology	Open source/public domain		Proprietary

Sahasrabuddhe et al., Ca Prev Res (2012)

Slide Courtesy of V. Sahasrabuddhe.

### Pap and Adenocarcinomas



Adegoke, J Women's Health 2012

### Four Rounds of VIA: Success or Failure?



Shastri et al., JNCI, 2014

#### HPV Testing Reduces the Risk of Cervical Cancer-Related Death in India



Sankaranarayanan et al., NEJM, 2009