



HPV & CERVICAL CANCER PREVENTION 2009 INTERNATIONAL TOOLKIT

QUICK FACTS ON HPV & CERVICAL CANCER

- * Human papillomavirus (HPV) is the primary cause of cervical cancer. Two types of HPV – 16 and 18 – account for 70 percent of all cervical cancers.
- * Estimates range from 50 percent to 80 percent of all men and women will have HPV at some point in their lives. Most infections will not develop into cervical cancer, are only temporary and will go away without treatment.
- * Cervical cancer is the leading cause of cancer death among adult women in the developing world and the second most common cancer in women worldwide.
- * Globally, 490,000 women are diagnosed with cervical cancer and more than 270,000 die from it each year.
- * 80 percent of cervical cancer diagnoses and deaths occur in less developed countries, where screening and treatment programs are either ineffective or nonexistent.
- * Cervical cancer and HPV do not usually have symptoms.
- * Cervical cancer is largely preventable – screening, changing or avoiding certain risk factors, and vaccinations are essential.
- * Cervical cancer screening has three methods: the Pap test (traditional or liquid-based), the HPV test, or, in rural settings, visual inspection with ascorbic acid (VIA).
- * The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has approved the Gardasil® vaccine for females aged nine to 26 years for the prevention of HPV types 6 and 11 (genital warts), and types 16 and 18.
- * Countries other than the U.S. have approved the use of Gardasil® and Cervarix®.

Sources

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