

# Cameroon

## Human Papillomavirus and Related Cancers, Fact Sheet 2023 (2023-03-10)



### I. Key data on HPV and HPV-related cancers



Cameroon has a population of 8.02 million women ages 15 years and older who are at risk of developing cervical cancer. Current estimates indicate that every year 2770 women are diagnosed with cervical cancer and 1787 die from the disease. Cervical cancer ranks as the 2nd most frequent cancer among women in Cameroon and the 2nd most frequent cancer among women between 15

and 44 years of age. Data is not yet available on the HPV burden in the general population of Cameroon. However, in Africa, about 3.8% of women in the general population are estimated to harbour cervical HPV-16/18 infection at a given time, and 67.2% of invasive cervical cancers are attributed to HPVs 16 or 18.

**Table 1. Crude incidence rates of HPV-related cancers**

	Male	Female
Cervical cancer	-	20.9
Anal cancer	0.38	0.36
Vulva cancer	-	0.39
Vaginal cancer	-	0.37
Penile cancer	0.08	-
Oropharyngeal cancer	1.17	0.21
Oral cavity cancer	1.04	0.68
Laryngeal cancer	0.23	0.08

**Table 2. Burden of cervical cancer**

	Incidence	Mortality
Annual number of new cases/deaths	2770	1787
Crude rate	20.9	13.5
Age-standardized rate	33.7	23.4
Cumulative risk 0-74 years (%)	3.61	2.67
Ranking of cervical cancer (all years)	2nd	2nd
Ranking of cervical cancer (15-44 years)	2nd	2nd

**Table 3. Burden of cervical HPV infection Cameroon**

	No. Tested	% (95% CI)
HPV 16/18 prevalence:		
Normal cytology	-	-
Low-grade cervical lesions	14	21.4 (7.6-47.6)
High-grade cervical lesions	-	-
Cervical cancer	-	-

**Figure 1. Comparison of the ten most frequent HPV oncogenic types in Cameroon among women with and without cervical lesions**



# Cameroon

## Human Papillomavirus and Related Cancers, Fact Sheet 2023 (2023-03-10)

### II. Complementary data on cervical cancer prevention

**Table 4. Factors contributing to cervical cancer (co-factors)**

Smoking prevalence (%) [95% UI], women	- [—]
Total fertility rate (live births per women)	4.6
Hormonal contraception use (%)	2.30
HIV prevalence (%) [95% UI] (15-49 years)	4.7 [4.1-5.3]

**Table 5. Sexual behaviour**

MEN	
Percentage of 15-year-old who have had sexual intercourse	11.2
Range of median age at first sexual intercourse	18.0 - 18.6
WOMEN	
Percentage of 15-year-old who have had sexual intercourse	15.0
Range of median age at first sexual intercourse	15.9 - 17.1

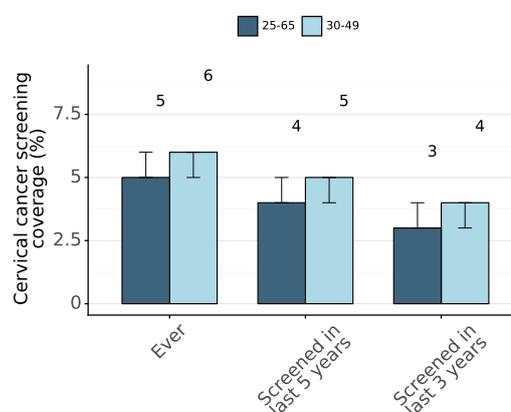
**Table 6. HPV vaccine introduction**

Females	
HPV vaccination programme	Introduced
Year of introduction	2020
Year of estimation	2021
HPV coverage – first dose (%)	20
HPV coverage – last dose (%)	5
Males	
HPV vaccination programme	Introduced
Year of introduction	2020
Year of estimation	2021
HPV coverage – first dose (%)	-
HPV coverage – last dose (%)	-

**Table 7. Cervical screening practices and recommendations**

Existence of official national recommendations	No
Starting year of recommendations	-
Active invitation to screening	-
Screening ages (years), primary screening test used, and screening interval or frequency of screenings	-

**Figure 2. Estimated coverage of cervical cancer screening in Cameroon\***



\* Estimated coverage and 95% confidence interval in 2019

#### Contact information:

ICO/IARC HPV Information Centre  
 Institut Català d'Oncologia  
 Avda. Gran Via de l'Hospitalet, 199-203  
 08908 L'Hospitalet de Llobregat (Barcelona, Spain)  
[info@hpvcentre.net](mailto:info@hpvcentre.net)  
[www.hpvcentre.net](http://www.hpvcentre.net)