

# Gambia

## Human Papillomavirus and Related Cancers, Fact Sheet 2017 (2017-04-19)



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



Gambia has a population of 549,836 women ages 15 years and older who are at risk of developing cervical cancer. Current estimates indicate that every year 98 women are diagnosed with cervical cancer and 57 die from the disease.

Cervical cancer ranks as the 1st most frequent cancer among women in Gambia and the 1st 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 Gambia. However, in Western Africa, the region Gambia belongs to, about 4.3% of women in the general population are estimated to harbour cervical HPV-16/18 infection at a given time, and 55.6% of invasive cervical cancers are attributed to HPV-16 or 18.

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

	Male	Female
Cervical cancer	-	10.6
Anal cancer	0.1	0.2
Vulva cancer	-	0.1
Vaginal cancer	-	0.2
Penile cancer	0.5	-
Pharynx (excluding nasopharynx)	0.0	0.0

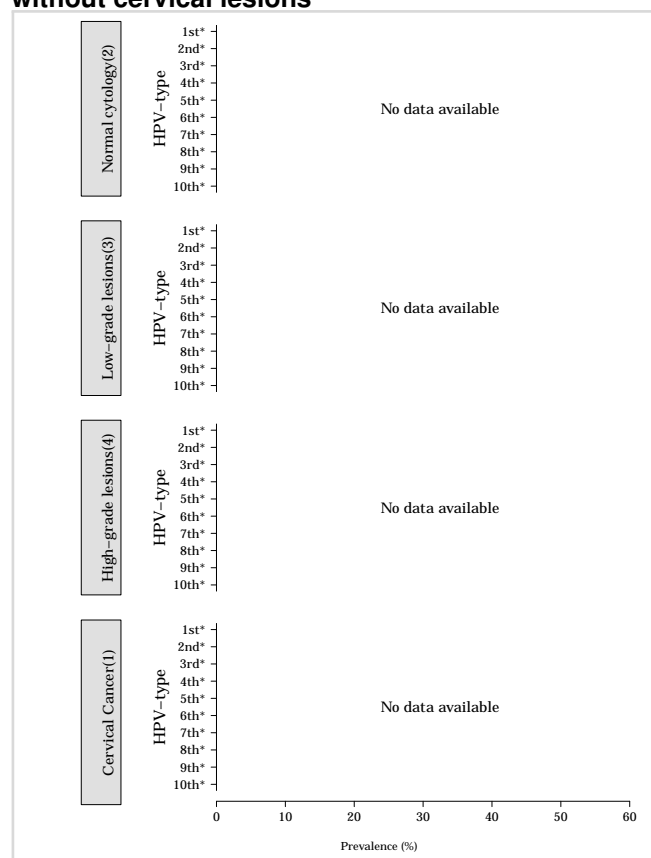
**Table 2. Burden of cervical cancer**

	Incidence	Mortality
Annual number of new cases/deaths	98	57
Crude rate	10.6	6.2
Age-standardized rate	26.1	18.0
Cumulative risk 0-74 years (%)	1.5	0.8
Ranking of cervical cancer (all years)	1st	2nd
Ranking of cervical cancer (15-44 years)	1st	2nd

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

	No. Tested	% (95% CI)
HPV prevalence in women with normal cytology	576	11.5 (9.1-14.3)
HPV 16/18 prevalence:		
Normal cytology	-	--
Low-grade cervical lesions	-	--
High-grade cervical lesions	-	--
Cervical cancer	-	--

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



\*No data available. No more types than shown were tested or were positive.

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### II. Complementary data on cervical cancer prevention

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

Smoking prevalence (%), women	-
Total fertility rate (live births per women)	5.8
Hormonal contraception use (%) (pill, injectable or implant), among women	6.6
HIV prevalence (%), adults (15-49 years)	1.8 [1.4 - 2.3]

**Table 5. Sexual behaviour**

MEN	
Percentage of 15-year-old who have had sexual intercourse	6.1
Range of median age at first sexual intercourse	-
WOMEN	
Percentage of 15-year-old who have had sexual intercourse	5.7
Range of median age at first sexual intercourse	18.9

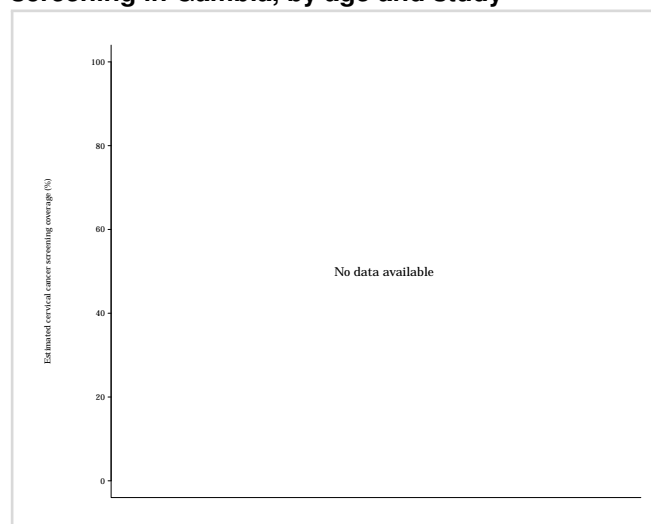
**Table 6. HPV vaccine introduction**

HPV vaccination programme	Pilot program
Date of HPV vaccination routine immunization programme start	-
HPV vaccination target age for routine immunization	-
Full course HPV vaccination coverage for routine immunization:	
% (calendar year)	-

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

Cervical cancer screening coverage, % (age and screening interval, reference)	-
Screening ages (years)	-
Screening interval (years) or frequency of screens	-

**Figure 2. Estimated coverage of cervical cancer screening in Gambia, by age and study**



#### Contact information:

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