Laos



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

I. Key data on HPV and HPV-related cancers



Laos has a population of 2.58 million women ages 15 years and older who are at risk of developing cervical cancer. Current estimates indicate that every year 371 women are diagnosed with cervical cancer and 191 die from the disease. Cervical cancer ranks as the 4th

most frequent cancer among women in Laos and the 3rd 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 Laos. However, in South-Eastern Asia, the region Laos belongs to, about 3.0% of women in the general population are estimated to harbour cervical HPV-16/18 infection at a given time, and 70.4% of invasive cervical cancers are attributed to HPVs 16 or 18.

Table 1. Crude incidence rates of HPV-related cancers

	Male	Female
Cervical cancer	-	10.2
Anal cancer	0.11	0.25
Vulva cancer	-	0.58
Vaginal cancer	-	0.19
Penile cancer	1.04	-
Oropharyngeal cancer	0.74	0.28
Oral cavity cancer	3.07	2.57
Laryngeal cancer	1.83	0.33

Table 2. Burden of cervical cancer

	Incidence	Mortality
Annual number of new cases/deaths	371	191
Crude rate	10.2	5.27
Age-standarized rate	12.0	6.70
Cumulative risk 0-74 years (%)	1.26	0.77
Ranking of cervical cancer (all years)	4th	6th
Ranking of cervical cancer (15-44 years)	3rd	4th

Table 3. Burden of cervical HPV infection Laos

	No. Tested	% (95% CI)
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 Laos among women with and without cervical lesions

No data available

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II. Complementary data on cervical cancer prevention

Table 4. Factors contributing to cervical cancer (cofactors)

Smoking prevalence (%) [95% UI], women	6.8 [4.8-9.3]
Total fertility rate (live births per women)	2.6
Hormonal contraception use (%)	27.3
HIV prevalence (%) [95% UI] (15-49 years)	0.2 [0.2-0.3]

Table 5 Sexual behaviour

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ME	N	
	Percentage of 15-year-old who have had sexual intercourse	-
	Range of median age at first sexual intercourse	-
WO	DMEN	
	Percentage of 15-year-old who have had sexual intercourse	-
	Range of median age at first sexual intercourse	-

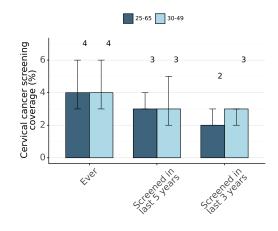
Table 6. HPV vaccine introduction

Females	
HPV vaccination programme	Introduced
Year of introduction	2020
Year of estimation	2021
HPV coverage – first dose (%)	37
HPV coverage – last dose (%)	42
Males	
HPV vaccination programme	Not Available/Not Introduced
Year of introduction	-
Year of estimation	-
HPV coverage – first dose (%)	-
HPV coverage – last dose (%)	

Table 7. Cervical screening practices and recommendations

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

Figure 2. Estimated coverage of cervical cancer screening in Laos*



^{*} Estimated coverage and 95% confidence interval in 2019

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