

# Lebanon

Human Papillomavirus and Related Cancers, Fact Sheet 2017 (2017-07-27)



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



Lebanon has a population of 2.21 millions women ages 15 years and older who are at risk of developing cervical cancer. Current estimates indicate that every year 113 women are diagnosed with cervical cancer and 42 die from the disease.

Cervical cancer ranks as the 11th most frequent cancer among women in Lebanon and the 6th 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 Lebanon. However, in Western Asia, the region Lebanon belongs to, about 2.3% of women in the general population are estimated to harbour cervical HPV-16/18 infection at a given time, and 72.4% of invasive cervical cancers are attributed to HPVs 16 or 18.

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

	Male	Female
Cervical cancer	-	5.1
Anal cancer	-	-
Vulva cancer	-	-
Vaginal cancer	-	-
Penile cancer	-	-
Pharynx (excluding nasopharynx)	0.5	0.2

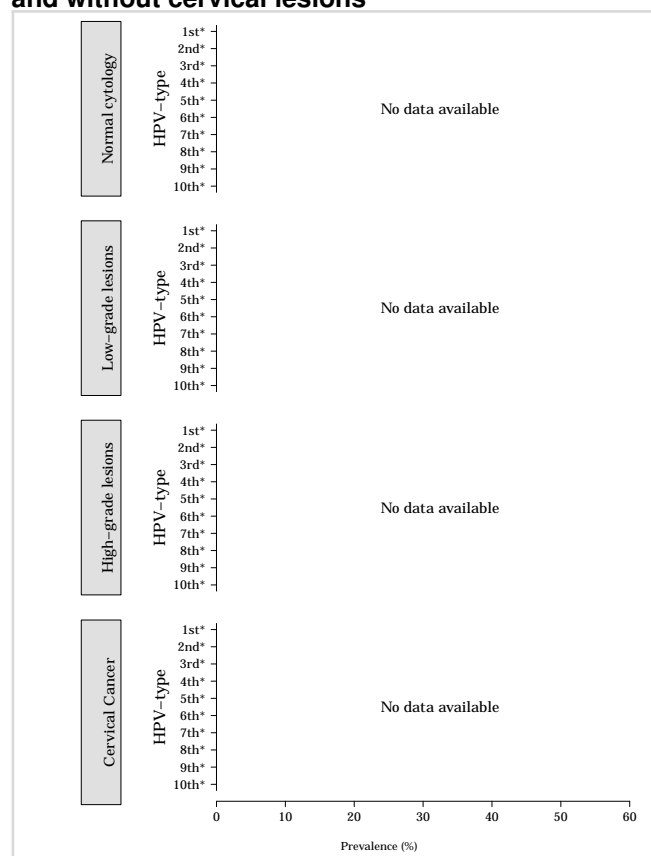
**Table 2. Burden of cervical cancer**

	Incidence	Mortality
Annual number of new cases/deaths	113	42
Crude rate	5.1	1.9
Age-standardized rate	4.6	1.7
Cumulative risk 0-74 years (%)	0.5	0.2
Ranking of cervical cancer (all years)	11th	12th
Ranking of cervical cancer (15-44 years)	6th	10th

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

	No. Tested	% (95% CI)
HPV prevalence in women with normal cytology	246	10.2 (7.0-14.6)
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 Lebanon 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	29.9 [22.3-38.5]
Total fertility rate (live births per women)	1.4
Hormonal contraception use (%) (pill, injectable or implant), among women	12.7
HIV prevalence (%), adults (15-49 years)	<0.1 [<0.1 - <0.1]

**Table 5. Sexual behaviour**

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

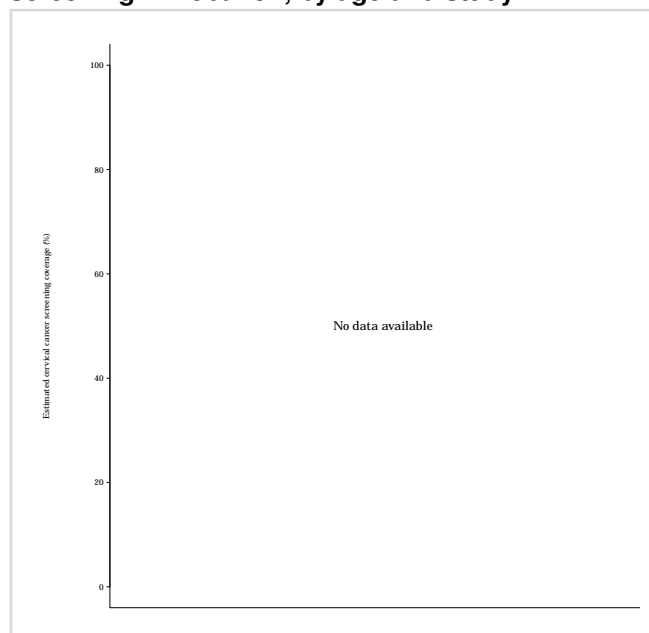
**Table 6. HPV vaccine introduction**

HPV vaccination programme	No program
Date of HPV vaccination routine immunization programme start	-

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

Cervical cancer screening coverage, % (age and screening interval, reference)	25.0% (ever screened, Sancho-Garnier 2013)
Screening ages (years)	3 years after becoming sexually active
Screening interval (years) or frequency of screens	2-3 years

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



<sup>a</sup> Proportion of women in the total sample of the mentioned age range in the country or region that reported having a Pap smear during a given time period (e.g., last year, last 2, 3, 5 years or ever).

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