Accelerating the fight against HPV and cervical cancer

The Global HPV Consortium Launch
September 5, 2023
Why Now?

In 2020, there were an estimated 
600,000 new cases and 340,000 deaths 
due to cervical cancer

Incidence of cervical cancer is rising among 
young women aged 15-49 years
We lose a woman to cervical cancer every 90 seconds. Each death is a tragedy that can be prevented.
Inequities exacerbate cervical cancer

Estimated age-standardized rates, per 100,000 by country income category in 2020, cervix uteri, females, all ages

- Low income: 23.8
- Low middle income: 16.9
- Upper middle income: 12.8
- High income: 8.4

3x higher
Inequities exacerbate cervical cancer

Estimated age-standardized rates, per 100 000 by country income category in 2020, cervix uteri, females, all ages
Women living with HIV have a higher HPV prevalence and a 6x higher risk of developing cervical cancer.
We have an increasing set of tools to prevent HPV and cervical cancer

Vaccines

Diagnostic tests

Treatment of precancerous lesions
However, HPV vaccination rates lag 14 years after introduction

% global coverage of WHO recommended vaccines, 1980-2022

Only 1 in 7 eligible girls received HPV vaccine in 2022

Countries with nearly 60% cervical cancer burden are yet to introduce the HPV vaccine
Only **44%** of women in LMICs are ever screened for cervical cancer
Inaction will mean that the global economy will lose $28 billion by 2030.
Some relatives, friends and my children have supported me but the cost of treatment is far beyond what we can afford.

- Halima Abubakar, 65, cervical cancer survivor from Nigeria
What can we do?
2020 was the first time that the world united to eliminate a cancer.

Today, we have an opportunity to accelerate the fight.
Guiding principles

1. Integration
2. Equity
3. Heterogeneity
4. Sustainability
Integrate primary and secondary prevention

- 90% of girls fully vaccinated with the HPV vaccine by age 15.
- 70% of women are screened with a high-performance test by 35 and 45 years of age.
- 90% of women with pre-cancer treated and with invasive cancer managed.
Build a unique transdisciplinary alliance

Unifying agendas

- Cancer
- HIV
- Non-communicable diseases
- Gender equity
- Adolescent health
- Reproductive health

Unifying changemakers

- Researchers and academics
- Women and youth advocates
- Private sector and industry
- Civil society organizations
- Implementation partners
- Policy makers

The Global HPV Consortium
Consortium partners are diverse and continue to grow.
Focus on equity

• Countries with high burden of HPV and cervical cancer
• Populations with high risk of disease and mortality
• Marginalized communities lacking access to services
• Groups affected by gender norms and stereotypes
Embrace heterogeneity

- Move away from one-size approach: countries and communities are heterogeneous
- Spur, share and scale-up local solutions
- Foster global, regional, national and local connections and cross learnings
- Invest in community-centered behavioral and social research
- Synthesize data and evidence to support tailored approaches
Promote sustainability

- Build strong political will
- Achieve sufficient and smart domestic financing
- Introduce cost effective, community-owned, and integrated service delivery models
- Foster adaptive leadership at all levels
- Develop a skilled and motivated workforce

The Global HPV Consortium
Engage in the discussions.

Build an action plan.