

Iceland

Human Papillomavirus and Related Cancers, Fact Sheet 2021 (2021-10-22)

I. Key data on HPV and HPV-related cancers



Iceland has a population of 136,306 women ages 15 years and older who are at risk of developing cervical cancer. Current estimates indicate that every year 16 women are diagnosed with cervical cancer and 5 die from the disease. Cervical cancer ranks as the 12th most frequent cancer among women in Iceland 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 Iceland. However, in Northern Europe, the region Iceland belongs to, about 4.2% of women in the general population are estimated to harbour cervical HPV-16/18 infection at a given time, and 77.0% of invasive cervical cancers are attributed to HPVs 16 or 18.

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Table 1. Crude incidence rates of HPV-related cancers

	Male	Female
Cervical cancer	-	9.42
Anal cancer	0	0.59
Vulva cancer	-	2.36
Vaginal cancer	-	1.18
Penile cancer	2.92	-
Oropharyngeal cancer	4.67	0
Oral cavity cancer	4.67	2.94
Laryngeal cancer	4.67	0.59

Table 2. Burden of cervical cancer

	Incidence	Mortality
Annual number of new cases/deaths	16	5
Crude rate	9.42	2.94
Age-standardized rate	8.26	1.94
Cumulative risk 0-74 years (%)	0.74	0.20
Ranking of cervical cancer (all years)	12th	13th
Ranking of cervical cancer (15-44 years)	2nd	4th

Table 3. Burden of cervical HPV infection Iceland

	No. Tested	% (95% CI)
HPV 16/18 prevalence:		
Normal cytology	-	-
Low-grade cervical lesions	-	-
High-grade cervical lesions	441	59.0 (54.3-63.5)
Cervical cancer	140	72.1 (64.2-78.9)

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



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II. Complementary data on cervical cancer prevention

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

Smoking prevalence (%) [95% UI], women	14 [9.9-18.2]
Total fertility rate (live births per women)	1.9
Hormonal contraception use (%)	-
HIV prevalence (%) [95% UI] (15-49 years)	<0.1 [<0.1 - <0.1]

Table 5. Sexual behaviour

MEN	
Percentage of 15-year-old who have had sexual intercourse	24.0
Range of median age at first sexual intercourse	15.4 - 17.8
WOMEN	
Percentage of 15-year-old who have had sexual intercourse	23.0
Range of median age at first sexual intercourse	15.4 - 18.7

Table 6. HPV vaccine introduction in females

HPV vaccination programme	Introduced
Year of introduction	2011
HPV coverage – first dose (%) (estimation year 2019)	94
HPV coverage – last dose (%) (estimation year 2019)	93
HPV coverage – first dose (%) (estimation year 2020)	94
HPV coverage – last dose (%) (estimation year 2020)	94

Table 7. Cervical screening practices and recommendations

Cervical cancer screening coverage, % (age and screening interval, reference)	64.0% (All women aged 20-69 screened every 3y, EUROSTAT Iceland)
Screening ages (years)	20-69
Screening interval (years) or frequency of screens	2 years (ages 20-39), 4 years (ages 40-69)

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

No data available

^a 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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