Republic of Korea has a population of 23.0 million women ages 15 years and older who are at risk of developing cervical cancer. Current estimates indicate that every year 3218 women are diagnosed with cervical cancer and 1014 die from the disease. Cervical cancer ranks as the 9th most frequent cancer among women in Republic of Korea and the 3rd most frequent cancer among women between 15 and 44 years of age. About 6.3% of women in the general population are estimated to harbour cervical HPV-16/18 infection at a given time, and 68.0% of invasive cervical cancers are attributed to HPVs 16 or 18.

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cancer Type</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cervical cancer</td>
<td>12.6</td>
<td>3.96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anal cancer</td>
<td>0.42</td>
<td>0.87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vulva cancer</td>
<td>0.87</td>
<td>0.32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vaginal cancer</td>
<td>0.38</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Penile cancer</td>
<td>0.38</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oropharyngeal cancer</td>
<td>2.20</td>
<td>0.32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oral cavity cancer</td>
<td>4.36</td>
<td>2.90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laryngeal cancer</td>
<td>4.35</td>
<td>0.25</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Table 2. Burden of cervical cancer

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Incidence</th>
<th>Mortality</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Annual number of cases</td>
<td>3218</td>
<td>1014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crude rate</td>
<td>12.6</td>
<td>3.96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age-standarized rate</td>
<td>8.12</td>
<td>1.84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cumulative risk 0-74 years (%)</td>
<td>0.78</td>
<td>0.17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ranking of cervical cancer</td>
<td>9th</td>
<td>10th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ranking of cervical cancer (15-44 years)</td>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>4th</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Table 3. Burden of cervical HPV infection Republic of Korea

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HPV 16/18 prevalence:</th>
<th>No. Tested</th>
<th>% (95% CI)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Normal cytology</td>
<td>13772</td>
<td>6.3 (5.9-6.7)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Low-grade lesions</td>
<td>659</td>
<td>33.2 (29.7-36.9)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High-grade lesions</td>
<td>704</td>
<td>46.7 (43.1-50.4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cervical cancer</td>
<td>1651</td>
<td>68.0 (65.7-70.2)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For data sources and further data on HPV infection in cancer sites other than the cervix, please refer to the specific country full report.
II. Complementary data on cervical cancer prevention

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Factor</th>
<th>Prevalence/Use (%) [95% UI]</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Smoking prevalence (%)</td>
<td>5.9 [4.6-7.2]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total fertility rate (live births per women)</td>
<td>1.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hormonal contraception use (%)</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIV prevalence (%) [95% UI] (15-49 years)</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

**Females**
- HPV vaccination programme: Introduced
- Year of introduction: 2016
- Year of estimation: 2021
- HPV coverage – first dose (%): —
- HPV coverage – last dose (%): —

**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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommendation</th>
<th>Existence of official national recommendations</th>
<th>Starting year of recommendations</th>
<th>Active invitation to screening</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Screening ages (years), primary screening test used, and screening interval or frequency of screenings</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>2016</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Figure 2. Estimated coverage of cervical cancer screening in Republic of Korea*

Cervical cancer screening coverage (%)

* Estimated coverage and 95% confidence interval in 2019

Contact information:

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www.hpvcentre.net

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