

# Kuwait

## Human Papillomavirus and Related Cancers, Fact Sheet 2018 (2019-06-17)



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



Kuwait has a population of 1.28 millions women ages 15 years and older who are at risk of developing cervical cancer. Current estimates indicate that every year 59 women are diagnosed with cervical cancer and 31 die from the disease. Cervical cancer ranks as the 8th most frequent cancer among women in Kuwait 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 Kuwait. However, in Western Asia, the region Kuwait belongs to, about 2.5% 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 HPV types 16 or 18.

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

	Male	Female
Cervical cancer	-	3.3
Anal cancer	0.1-0.2	0.1-0.3
Vulva cancer	-	0.0-0.1
Vaginal cancer	-	0.0
Penile cancer	0.0-0.1	-
Oropharynx	0.1	-9999.0

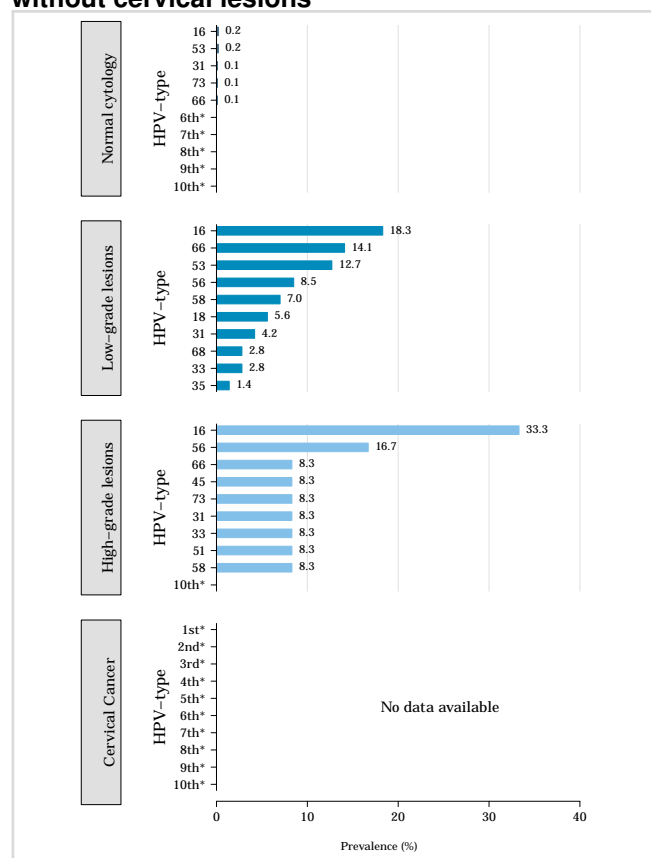
**Table 2. Burden of cervical cancer**

	Incidence	Mortality
Annual number of new cases/deaths	59	31
Crude rate	3.3	1.7
Age-standardized rate	3.3	2.2
Cumulative risk 0-74 years (%)	0.4	0.3
Ranking of cervical cancer (all years)	8th	8th
Ranking of cervical cancer (15-44 years)	3rd	3rd

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

	No. Tested	% (95% CI)
HPV prevalence in women with normal cytology	3011	2.4 (1.9-3.0)
HPV 16/18 prevalence:		
Normal cytology	3011	0.2 (0.1-0.4)
Low-grade cervical lesions	142	23.9 (17.7-31.6)
High-grade cervical lesions	24	33.3 (18.0-53.3)
Cervical cancer	-	-

**Figure 1. Comparison of the ten most frequent HPV oncogenic types in Kuwait 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	-
Total fertility rate (live births per women)	1.8
Hormonal contraception use (%) (pill, injectable or implant), among women	23.4
HIV prevalence (%), adults (15-49 years)	-

**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	-

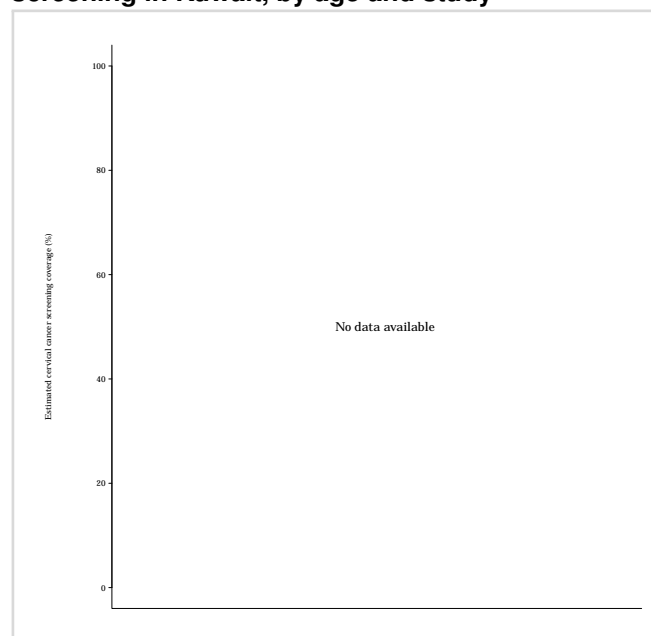
**Table 6. HPV vaccine introduction**

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)	22.3% (Al Sairafi 2009)
Screening ages (years)	Married
Screening interval (years) or frequency of screens	5 years

**Figure 2. Estimated coverage of cervical cancer screening in Kuwait, 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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