

Sri Lanka

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



I. Key data on HPV and HPV-related cancers



Sri Lanka has a population of 8.56 million women ages 15 years and older who are at risk of developing cervical cancer. Current estimates indicate that every year 1407 women are diagnosed with cervical cancer and 780 die from the disease.

Cervical cancer ranks as the

2nd most frequent cancer among women in Sri Lanka and the 4th 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 Sri Lanka. However, in Southern Asia, the region Sri Lanka belongs to, about 4.4% of women in the general population are estimated to harbour cervical HPV-16/18 infection at a given time, and 80.3% of invasive cervical cancers are attributed to HPVs 16 or 18.

Table 1. Crude incidence rates of HPV-related cancers

	Male	Female
Cervical cancer	-	12.6
Anal cancer	0.71	0.45
Vulva cancer	-	0.48
Vaginal cancer	-	0.57
Penile cancer	1.11	-
Oropharyngeal cancer	3.69	0.34
Oral cavity cancer	21.4	5.54
Laryngeal cancer	7.08	0.87

Table 2. Burden of cervical cancer

	Incidence	Mortality
Annual number of new cases/deaths	1407	780
Crude rate	12.6	7.00
Age-standardized rate	9.21	4.94
Cumulative risk 0-74 years (%)	1.04	0.57
Ranking of cervical cancer (all years)	2nd	4th
Ranking of cervical cancer (15-44 years)	4th	5th

Table 3. Burden of cervical HPV infection Sri Lanka

	No. Tested	% (95% CI)
HPV 16/18 prevalence:		
Normal cytology	-	-
Low-grade cervical lesions	-	-
High-grade cervical lesions	-	-
Cervical cancer	206	80.6 (74.6-85.4)

Figure 1. Comparison of the ten most frequent HPV oncogenic types in Sri Lanka 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	0.3 [0.2-0.4]
Total fertility rate (live births per women)	2.0
Hormonal contraception use (%)	8.10
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	-
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	-

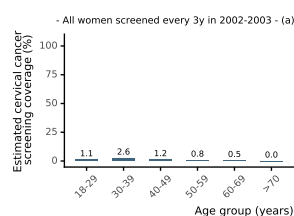
Table 6. HPV vaccine introduction in females

HPV vaccination programme	Introduced
Year of introduction	2017
HPV coverage – first dose (%) (estimation year 2019)	99
HPV coverage – last dose (%) (estimation year 2019)	82
HPV coverage – first dose (%) (estimation year 2020)	70
HPV coverage – last dose (%) (estimation year 2020)	70

Table 7. Cervical screening practices and recommendations

Cervical cancer screening coverage, % (age and screening interval, reference)	1.5% (All women aged 25-64 screened every 3y, WHS 2003 Sri Lanka)
Screening ages (years)	30-65
Screening interval (years) or frequency of screens	5 years

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



Contact information:

ICO/IARC HPV Information Centre
 Institut Català d'Oncologia
 Avda. Gran Via de l'Hospitalet, 199-203
 08908 L'Hospitalet de Llobregat (Barcelona, Spain)
 info@hpvcentre.net
www.hpvcentre.net