

# Nepal

## Human Papillomavirus and Related Cancers, Fact Sheet 2023 (2023-03-10)

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



Nepal has a population of 11.5 million women ages 15 years and older who are at risk of developing cervical cancer. Current estimates indicate that every year 2244 women are diagnosed with cervical cancer and 1493 die from the disease.

Cervical cancer ranks as the

1st most frequent cancer among women in Nepal and the 2nd most frequent cancer among women between 15 and 44 years of age. About 2.0% 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	-	14.2
Anal cancer	0.17	0.11
Vulva cancer	-	0.15
Vaginal cancer	-	0.21
Penile cancer	1.39	-
Oropharyngeal cancer	0.34	0.09
Oral cavity cancer	4.55	1.49
Laryngeal cancer	2.19	0.87

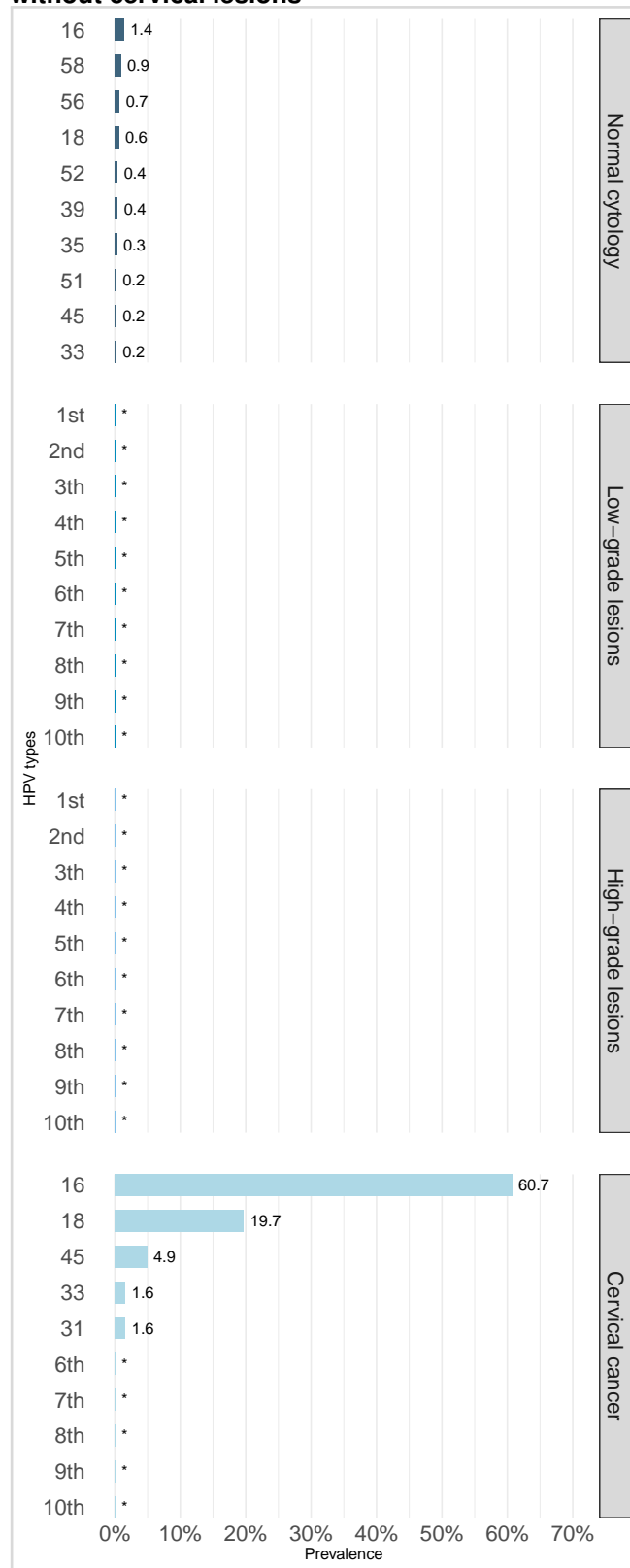
**Table 2. Burden of cervical cancer**

	Incidence	Mortality
Annual number of new cases/deaths	2244	1493
Crude rate	14.2	9.46
Age-standardized rate	16.4	11.1
Cumulative risk 0-74 years (%)	1.81	1.22
Ranking of cervical cancer (all years)	1st	1st
Ranking of cervical cancer (15-44 years)	2nd	1st

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

	No. Tested	% (95% CI)
HPV 16/18 prevalence:		
Normal cytology	1109	2.0 (1.3-3.0)
Low-grade cervical lesions	-	-
High-grade cervical lesions	-	-
Cervical cancer	61	80.3 (68.7-88.4)

**Figure 1. Comparison of the ten most frequent HPV oncogenic types in Nepal 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	8.4 [6-11]
Total fertility rate (live births per women)	2.1
Hormonal contraception use (%)	4.60
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	3.7
Range of median age at first sexual intercourse	18.9 - 19.7
WOMEN	
Percentage of 15-year-old who have had sexual intercourse	4.6
Range of median age at first sexual intercourse	16.5 - 17.9

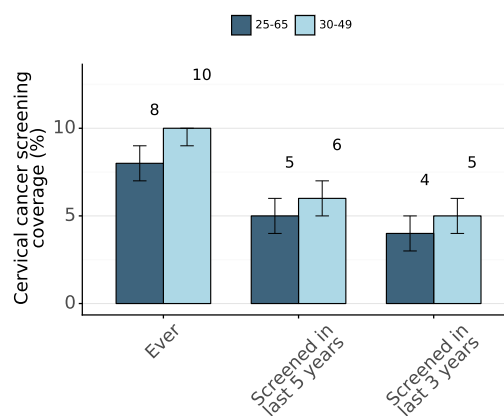
**Table 6. HPV vaccine introduction**

Females	
HPV vaccination programme	Not Available/Not Introduced
Year of introduction	-
Year of estimation	-
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**

Existence of official national recommendations	Yes
Starting year of recommendations	2010
Active invitation to screening	No
Screening ages (years), primary screening test used, and screening interval or frequency of screenings	30-60 (VIA, 5 years)

**Figure 2. Estimated coverage of cervical cancer screening in Nepal\***



\* Estimated coverage and 95% confidence interval in 2019

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