

Portugal

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

I. Key data on HPV and HPV-related cancers



Portugal has a population of 4.73 million women ages 15 years and older who are at risk of developing cervical cancer. Current estimates indicate that every year 865 women are diagnosed with cervical cancer and 379 die from the disease.

Cervical cancer ranks as the 8th most frequent cancer among women in Portugal and the 3rd most frequent cancer among women between 15 and 44 years of age. About 5.6% of women in the general population are estimated to harbour cervical HPV-16/18 infection at a given time, and 81.5% of invasive cervical cancers are attributed to HPVs 16 or 18.

Table 1. Crude incidence rates of HPV-related cancers

	Male	Female
Cervical cancer	-	16.1
Anal cancer	1.89	1.66
Vulva cancer	-	3.72
Vaginal cancer	-	0.91
Penile cancer	2.47	-
Oropharyngeal cancer	7.44	0.39
Oral cavity cancer	16.7	5.57
Laryngeal cancer	10.0	0.84

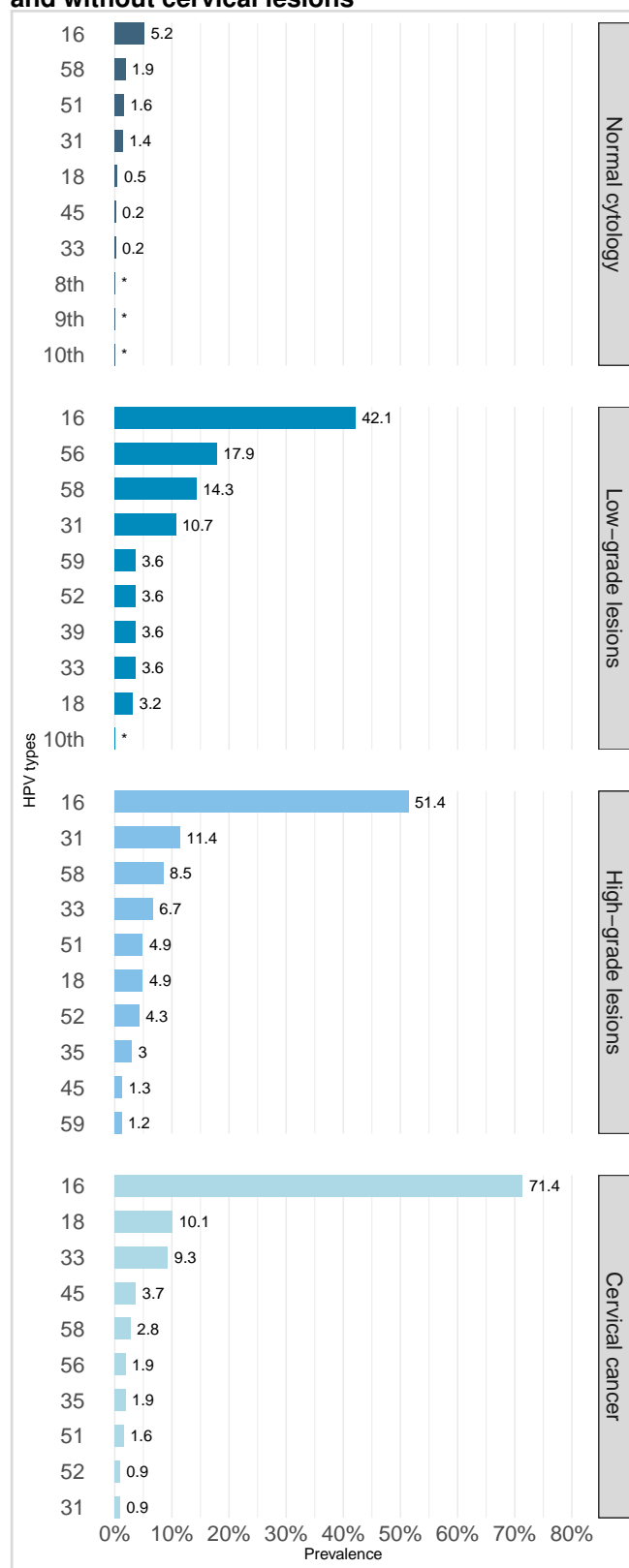
Table 2. Burden of cervical cancer

	Incidence	Mortality
Annual number of new cases/deaths	865	379
Crude rate	16.1	7.05
Age-standardized rate	10.7	3.20
Cumulative risk 0-74 years (%)	1.01	0.34
Ranking of cervical cancer (all years)	8th	11th
Ranking of cervical cancer (15-44 years)	3rd	3rd

Table 3. Burden of cervical HPV infection Portugal

	No. Tested	% (95% CI)
HPV 16/18 prevalence:		
Normal cytology	425	5.6 (3.8-8.3)
Low-grade cervical lesions	444	45.3 (40.7-49.9)
High-grade cervical lesions	875	56.3 (53.0-59.6)
Cervical cancer	168	81.5 (75.0-86.7)

Figure 1. Comparison of the ten most frequent HPV oncogenic types in Portugal 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	13 [9.7-16.5]
Total fertility rate (live births per women)	1.2
Hormonal contraception use (%)	48.3
HIV prevalence (%) [95% UI] (15-49 years)	0.3 [0.2-0.3]

Table 5. Sexual behaviour

MEN	
Percentage of 15-year-old who have had sexual intercourse	26.0
Range of median age at first sexual intercourse	16.2 - 17.2
WOMEN	
Percentage of 15-year-old who have had sexual intercourse	13.0
Range of median age at first sexual intercourse	19.5 - > 19.0

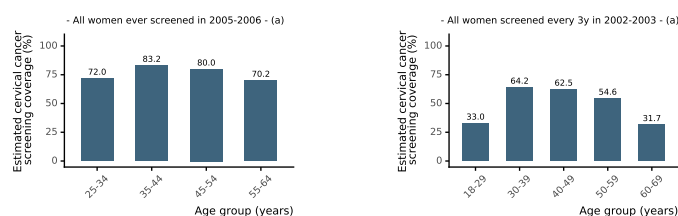
Table 6. HPV vaccine introduction in females

HPV vaccination programme	Introduced
Year of introduction	2008
HPV coverage – first dose (%) (estimation year 2019)	93
HPV coverage – last dose (%) (estimation year 2019)	81
HPV coverage – first dose (%) (estimation year 2020)	93
HPV coverage – last dose (%) (estimation year 2020)	93

Table 7. Cervical screening practices and recommendations

Cervical cancer screening coverage, % (age and screening interval, reference)	54.8% (screened every 1y, EUROSTAT Portugal)
Screening ages (years)	25-64
Screening interval (years) or frequency of screens	3 years

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



^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).

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