

HPV and Cervical Cancer: Why Vaccination Matters



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OUTLINE



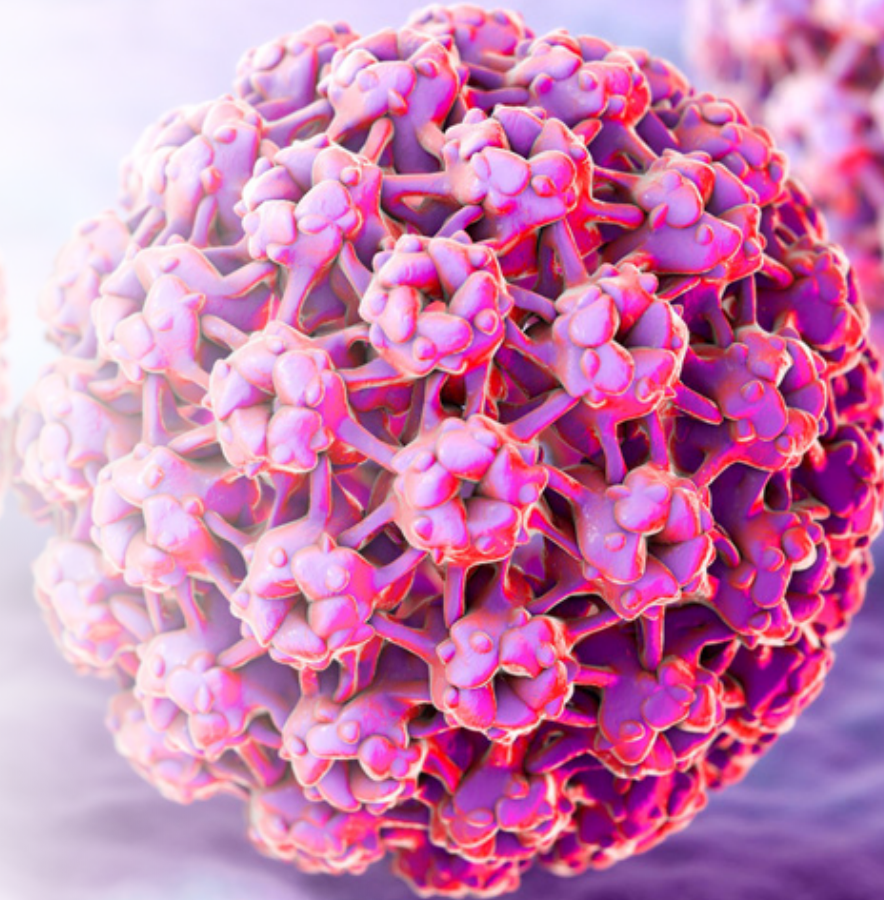


Introduction

- Every 2 minutes, a woman dies from cervical cancer worldwide.

What is HPV?

- Human Papillomavirus (HPV) = common sexually transmitted infection.
- Over 200 types; at least 12 are high-risk.
- Most infections clear, but persistent high-risk types cause cancer.

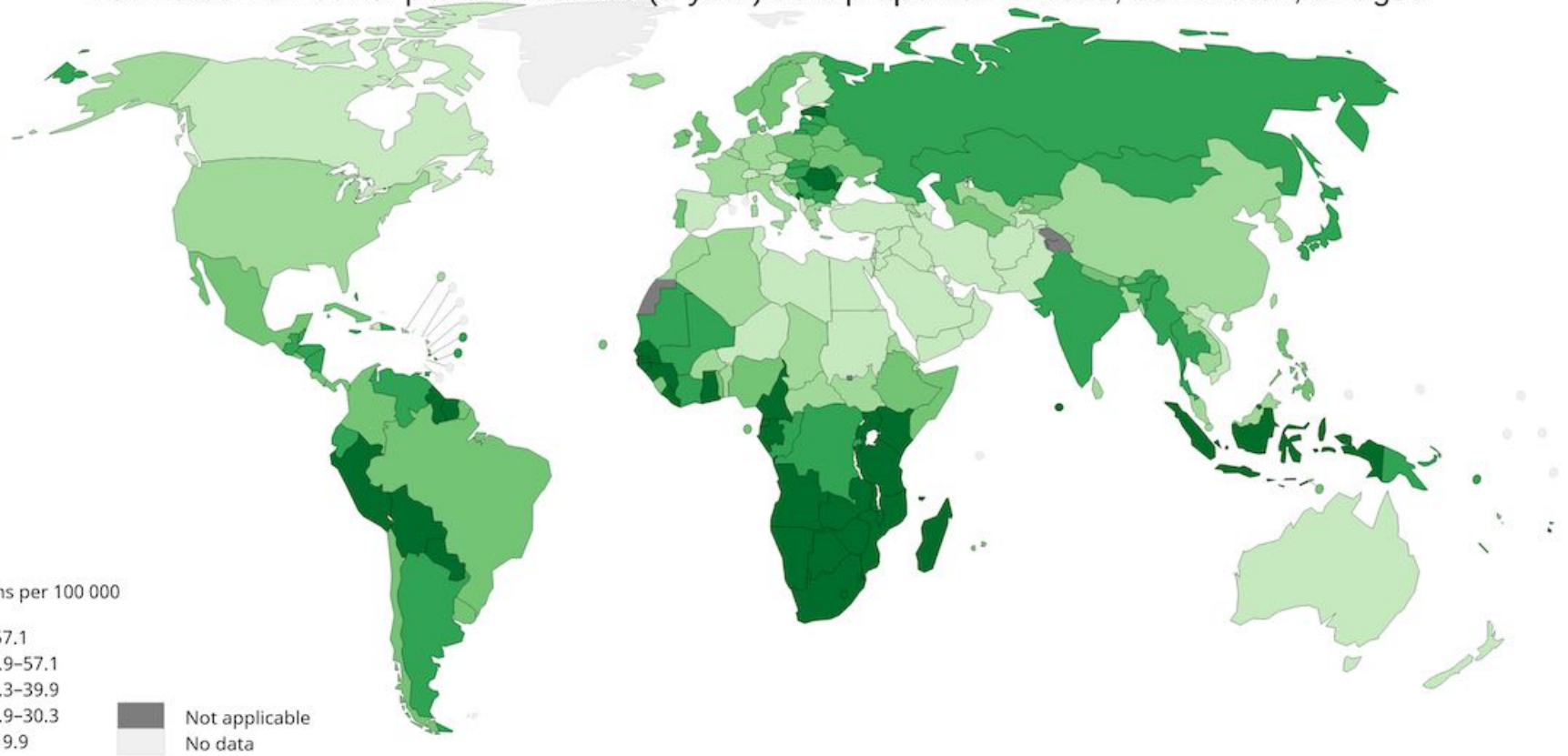


HPV and Cervical Cancer

- HPV causes >95% of cervical cancers.
- HPV 16 and 18 cause about 71% of cervical cancers.
- Also linked to cancers of the anus, vulva, vagina, penis and oropharynx.



Estimated number of prevalent cases (5-year) as a proportion in 2020, cervix uteri, all ages



Burden of Cervical Cancer

- >660,000 new cases and >340,000 deaths annually.
- 90% in low- and middle-income countries.
- Leading cause of cancer deaths among African women.

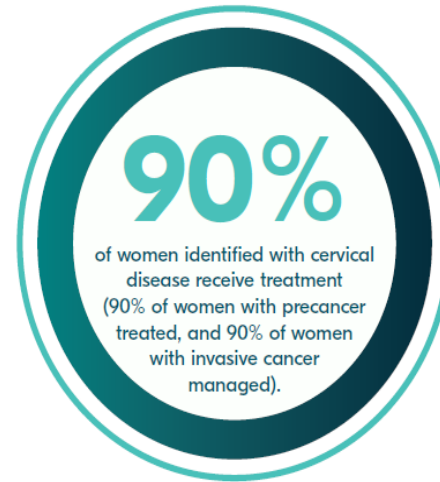
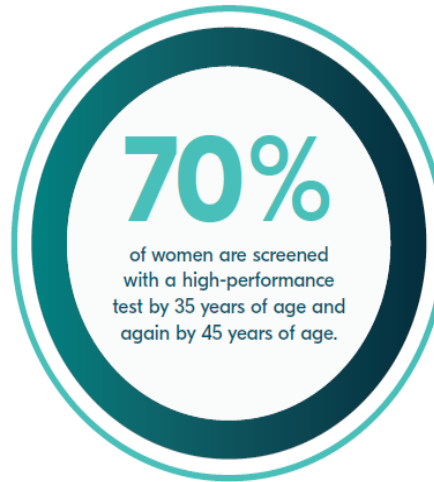
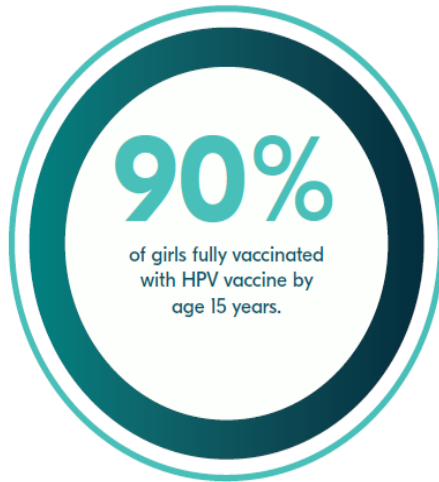


Risk Factors

- Low socioeconomic status
 - Persistent HPV infection
 - High-risk sexual behaviour
 - HIV and immunosuppression
 - Smoking
 - Lack of screening and vaccination
-

Prevention is Possible

Cervical cancer is preventable



HPV Vaccination

- Safe and effective vaccines: bivalent, quadrivalent, nonavalent.
- Protect against HPV 16 & 18 (~70% of cervical cancers).
- Best for girls/boys aged 9–14, before sexual debut.



Benefits of Vaccination



PREVENTS HPV INFECTION
AND PRECANCEROUS
LESIONS.



PROVIDES HERD
PROTECTION WITH HIGH
COVERAGE.



LONG-LASTING IMMUNITY
(10+ YEARS).



Global Progress

- >140 countries introduced HPV vaccine.
- Declines in HPV infections & cervical precancers in vaccinated countries

Challenges in LMICs



HIGH VACCINE COST
AND LIMITED SUPPLY.



MYTHS AND
MISINFORMATION.



WEAK HEALTH SYSTEMS
AND LOW COVERAGE.

Local Context: Ghana

- 2nd most common cancer in Ghanaian women.
- 3,072 new cases and 1,815 deaths in 2022,
- HPV vaccine being rolled out.



Why Vaccination Matters



SAVES LIVES AND
PREVENTS SUFFERING.



REDUCES FUTURE
HEALTHCARE COSTS.



SUPPORTS WHO'S 90-70-
90 ELIMINATION GOAL.

CALL TO ACTION

- Support HPV vaccination programs.
- Educate to fight myths.
- Combine vaccination with screening and treatment.

- “A world without cervical cancer is possible.”



Thank You

