

Cervical Cancer and HPV in South Carolina

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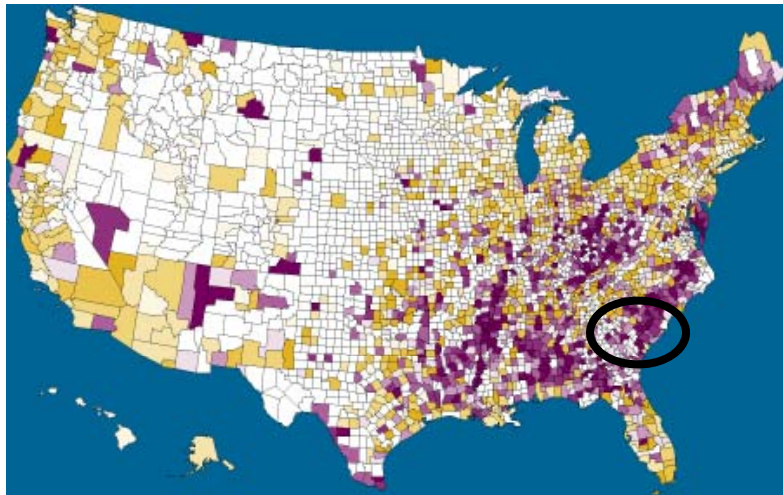
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Public Health Problem



Source: Freeman HP, Wingrove BK. Excess cervical cancer mortality: A marker for low access to health care in poor communities. Rockville, MD: National Cancer Institute, Center to Reduce Cancer Health Disparities; 2005. Report: NIH Pub. No. 05-5282.



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- ▶ South Carolina ranks 14th in new cases (incidence) and 14th in deaths (mortality) of cervical cancer.
- ▶ African-American women are 2.5 times more likely to die of cervical cancer as compared to European-American women.



http://www.sph.sc.edu/health_disparities/doc/JSCMA_Dec.pdf



Two HPV Vaccines

- ▶ Gardasil (Merck & Company)
 - Approved (licensed) in June 2006
 - Females - AND - males, age 9-26
 - Four HPV types
 - High-risk 16, 18
 - Low-risk 6, 11
- ▶ Cervarix (GlaxoSmithKline)
 - Approved (licensed) in October 2009, clinically available soon
 - Females, age 9-26
 - Two HPV types
 - High-risk 16, 18



HPV Vaccines: How are the two vaccines alike?

- ▶ Both vaccines are very **effective** against HPV types 16 and 18, which cause most cervical cancers. So both vaccines prevent cervical cancer and precancer in women.
- ▶ Both vaccines are very **safe**.
- ▶ Both vaccines are **made with very small parts** of the human papillomavirus (HPV) that cannot cause infection with HPV, so neither of the vaccines can cause HPV infection.
- ▶ Both vaccines are given as **shots** and require **three doses**.



HPV Vaccines: How are the two vaccines different?

- ▶ Only one of the vaccines (Gardasil) also protects against HPV types 6 and 11. These HPV types cause most genital warts in females and males.
- ▶ The vaccines have different adjuvants. A vaccine adjuvant is a substance that is added to the vaccine to increase the body's immune response.



HPV Vaccines: What do HPV vaccines mean for preventing cervical cancer?

- ▶ As of now, HPV vaccines will not replace cervical cancer screening (i.e., Pap tests). Cervical cancer screening will continue to be an important early detection tool among all women.
- ▶ Other than HPV vaccines, the best known defense against getting HPV is to avoid sexual contact (abstinence), use condoms, and/or have only one sexual partner.



Summary

- ▶ Cervical cancer is rare, but more can be done to prevent cervical cancer.
- ▶ HPV is the main risk factor for cervical cancer.
- ▶ The Pap test is the main screening test for cervical cancer.
- ▶ Cervical cancer screening should start by age 21.
- ▶ Follow-up of abnormal Pap test results is important.
- ▶ HPV vaccines are available to prevent cervical cancer (and genital warts) in females and males.



Thank you!

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Funding Acknowledgment: This educational program is supported by the South Carolina Cancer Disparities Community Network (SCDCN) grant (1U01CA114601; PI: Hebert). The SCDCN is one of 25 Community Networks Programs of the Center to Reduce Cancer Health Disparities of the National Cancer Institute. The content is solely the responsibility of the authors and does not necessarily represent the official views of the National Institutes of Health.