



THE SOCIETY OF OBSTETRICIANS  
AND GYNAECOLOGISTS OF CANADA

LA SOCIÉTÉ DES OBSTÉTRICIENS  
ET GYNÉCOLOGUES DU CANADA

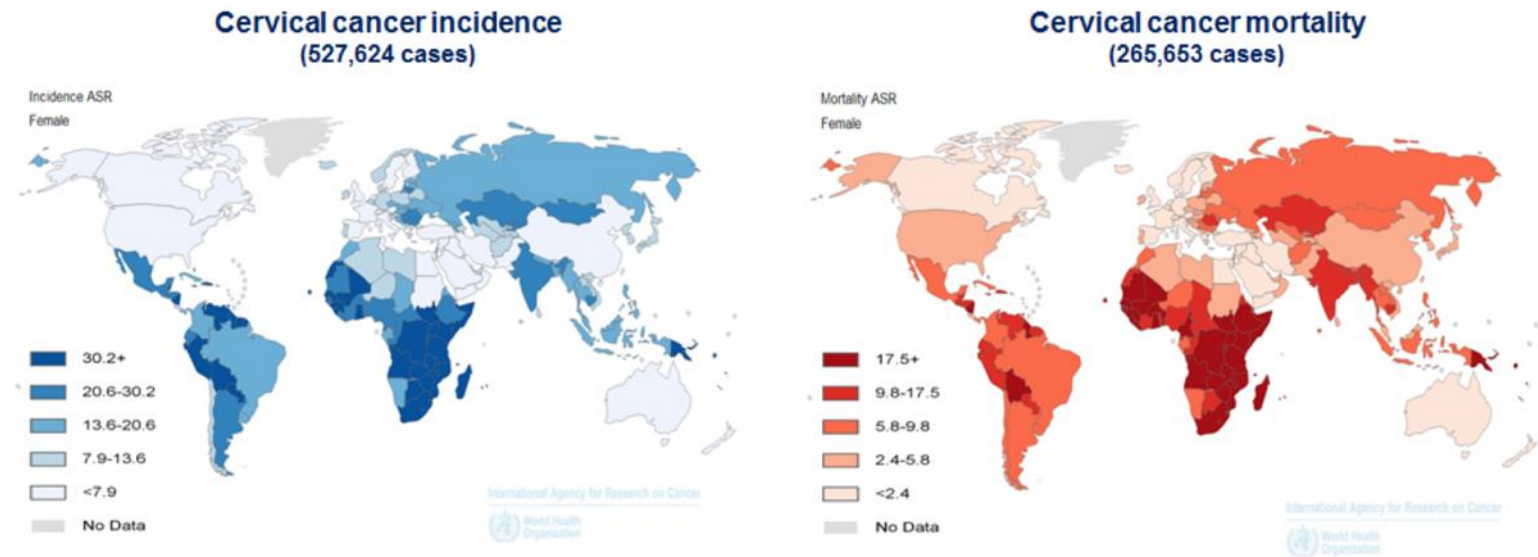
# Cervical Cancer Elimination

## A Once in Forever Opportunity

Jennifer Blake MD MSc FRCSC

# Cervical Cancer

- Second most common Cancer in women
- 2nd in Canadian women aged 20-44
- Inequitable, high mortality



# Elimination of Cervical Cancer, 2018

The Secretary General of the WHO, Tedros Gebreysus, "I made a commitment to support the global elimination of cervical cancer.

We have the tools to turn that commitment into a reality...we also have the political commitment."

# The History is Long, and Short

- 1713: B Ramazzini, Nuns have virtually none
- 1842 Rigoni Stern, Cervical cancer rates in married women, widows and prostitutes
- 1974 ZurHausen, HPV causes cervical cancer
- 2006 HPV quadrivalent vaccine
- 2007 HPV bivalent
- 2014 nonavalent vaccine



# Australian Leadership

- First Lady, Janette Howard had cancer of the cervix
- Ian Fraser, leading scientist
- School based programme
- Coverage for total eligible cohort
- Global leaders in vaccination



Janette Howard



Ian Fraser

# Canadian Leadership

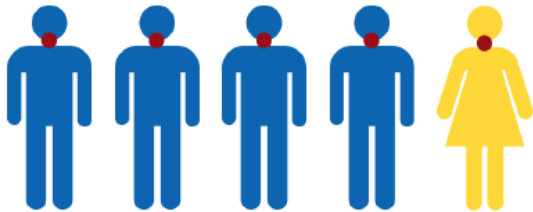
- 2006 Federal government funded provinces to initiate HPV vaccination
  - School based programmes for girls established in all provinces and territories
  - School-based, publicly funded programmes work
- 2013 Coverage expanded to boys

# Canadian Leadership

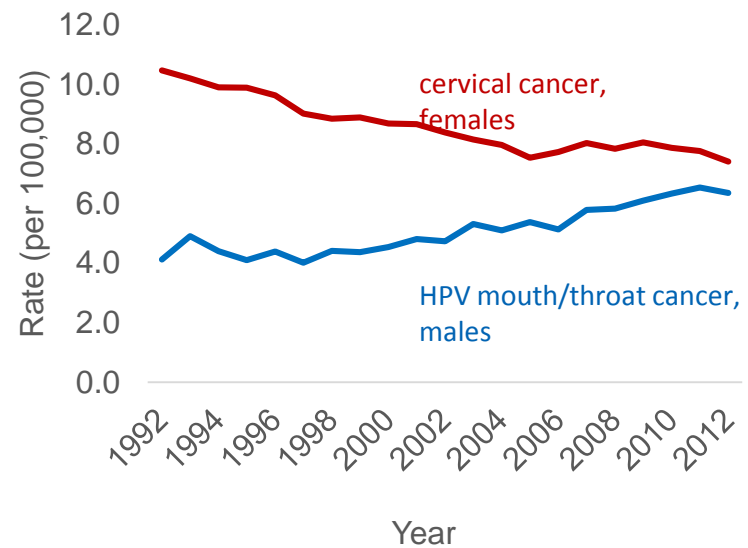
- Leading research in vaccination protocols
- Leading research on screening
- Achieving real results much faster than anticipated with safe and effective vaccine
- On the path to elimination

# Mouth and Throat Cancer

- Between 1992 and 2012, rates increased 17% in females and 56% in males
- 4 in 5 cases are in males



- Set to surpass cervical cancer

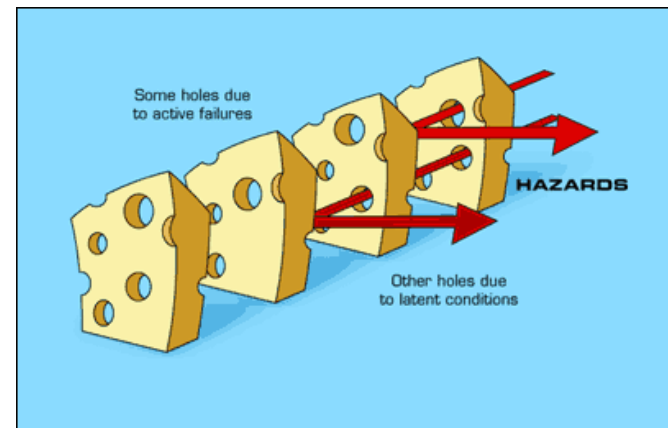




# Why Cervical Cancer?

It is only caused by HPV, and is detectable before it becomes cancer, so we can:

1. Vaccinate against 90% of cancer causing HPV
2. Screen for the disease before it becomes cancer
3. Treat before it becomes cancer

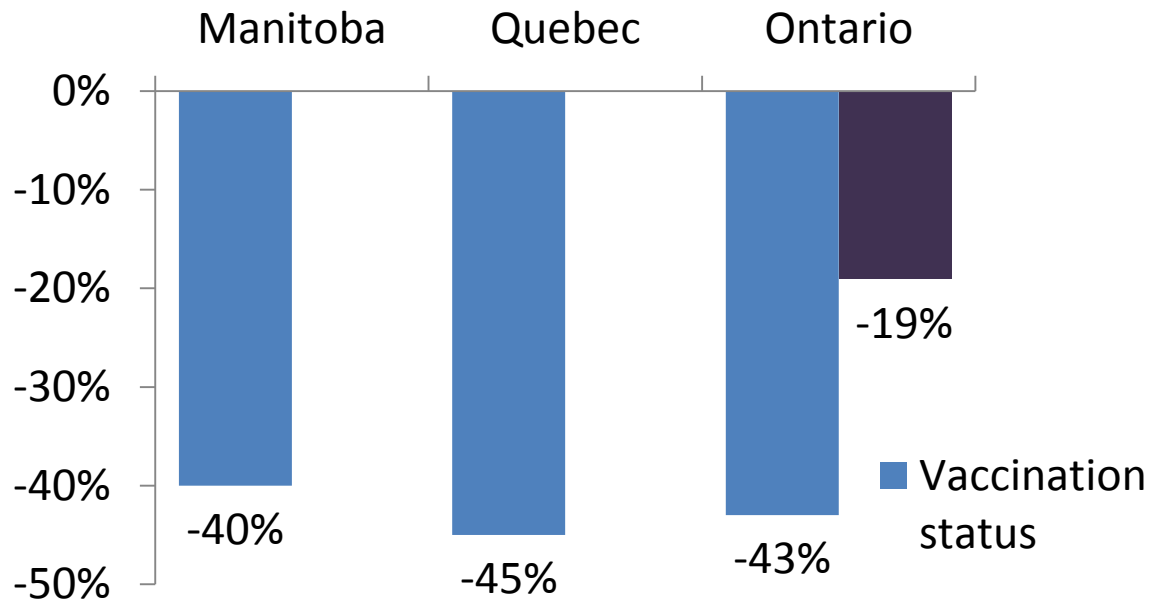


# Where are we today, in Canada?

- Today we can chart the course to eliminate cervical cancer, with a marked reduction in other cancers caused by HPV

# How are we Doing?

## Impact on Genital Warts 2006-2016



Quebec: Steben, M. et al. Abstract presented at IPV, Seattle, USA, Aug. 21-25, 2014

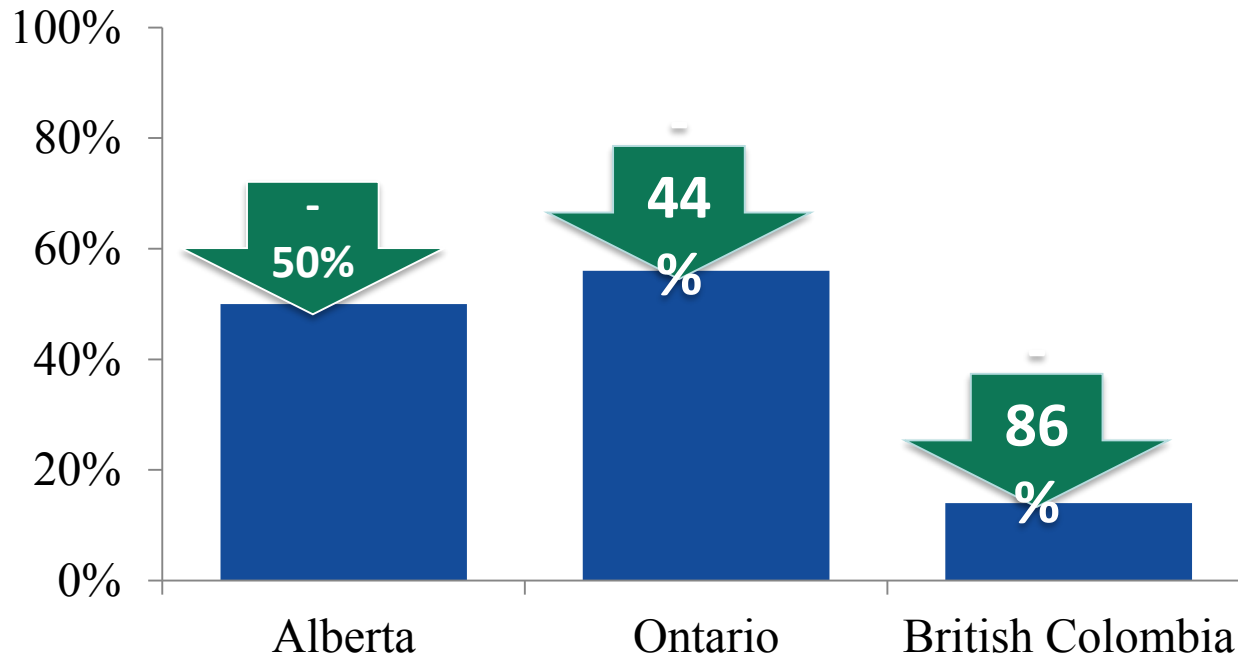
Ontario: Smith, L. et al. Pediatrics 2015; 135:1131-1140

Manitoba: Willows, K. et al. Abstract presented at the GOC 37<sup>th</sup> AGM meeting. Vancouver. June 16-18, 2016

# How are we Doing?

## Impact on abnormal cervical lesions

Cervical dysplasia reduction in Canadian girls:



Alberta: Kim, J. et al., CMAJ 2016, 188(12):e281-8

Ontario: Smith, L. et al. Pediatrics 2015; 135:1131-1140

British Columbia: Ogilvie, GS et al. Int. J. Cancer 2015;137:1931-1937

# What will it take?

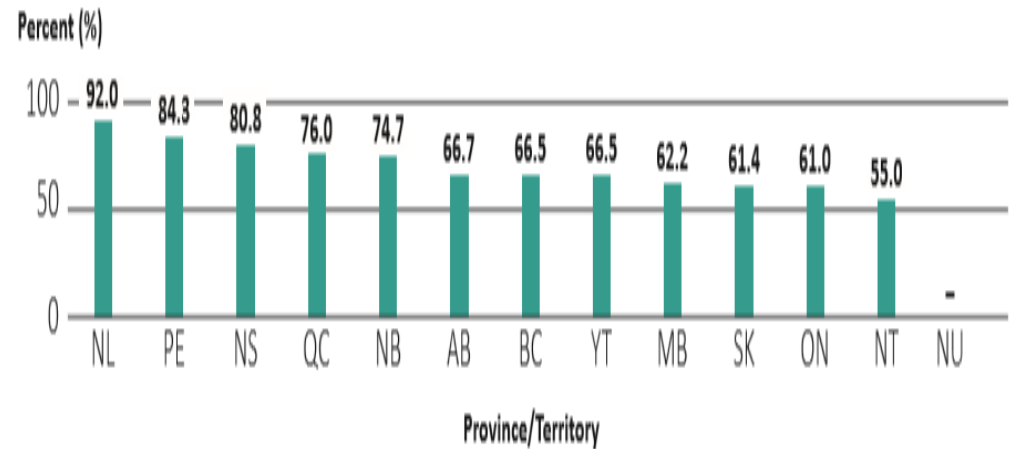
## 1. Vaccination

- Target 90%
- Australian model assumed
  - Nonavalent vaccine
  - Uptake 82% in girls and 76% in boys



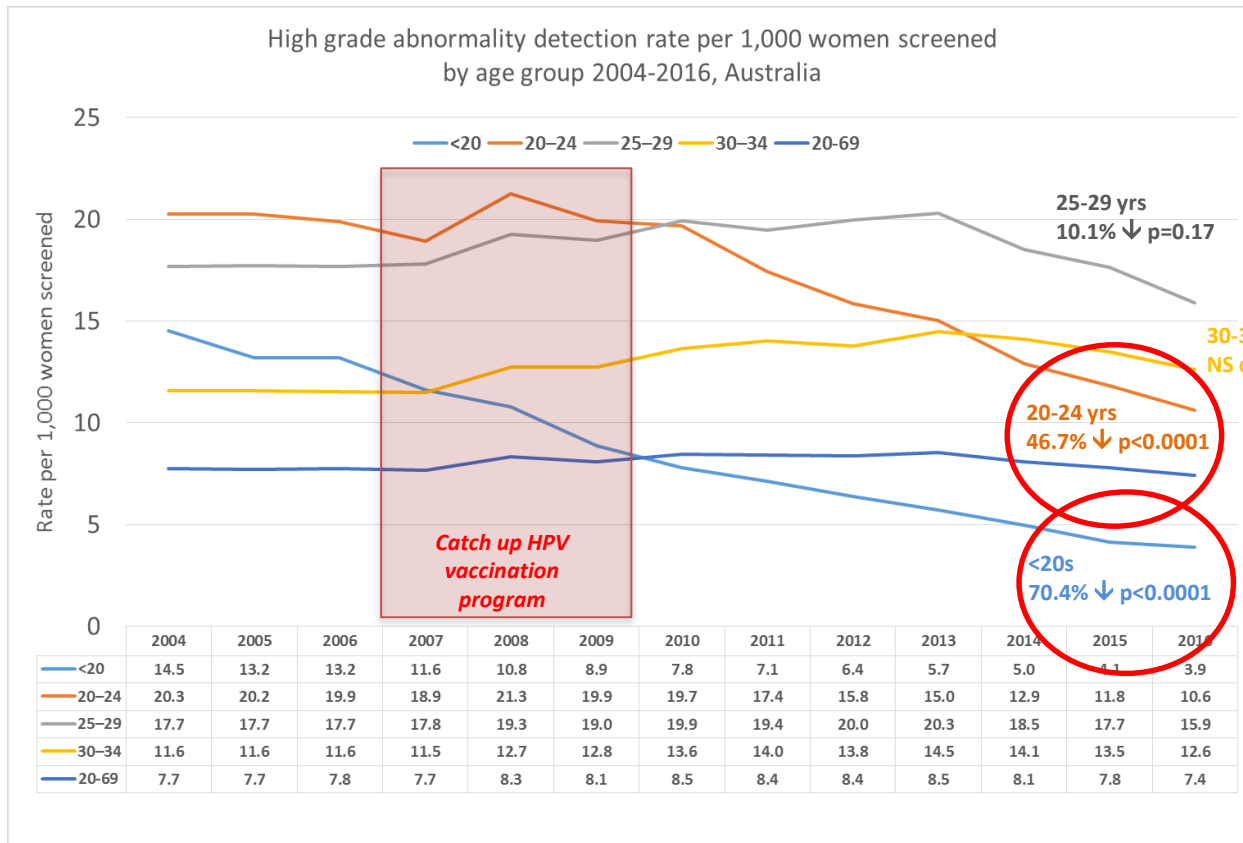
# How are We Doing?

- School based programme for girls and boys
- Target 90%



% of Girls Fully Immunized through School based Programmes

# Australia: High grade abnormality rates after catch-up vaccination



Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, 2018

# What will it take?

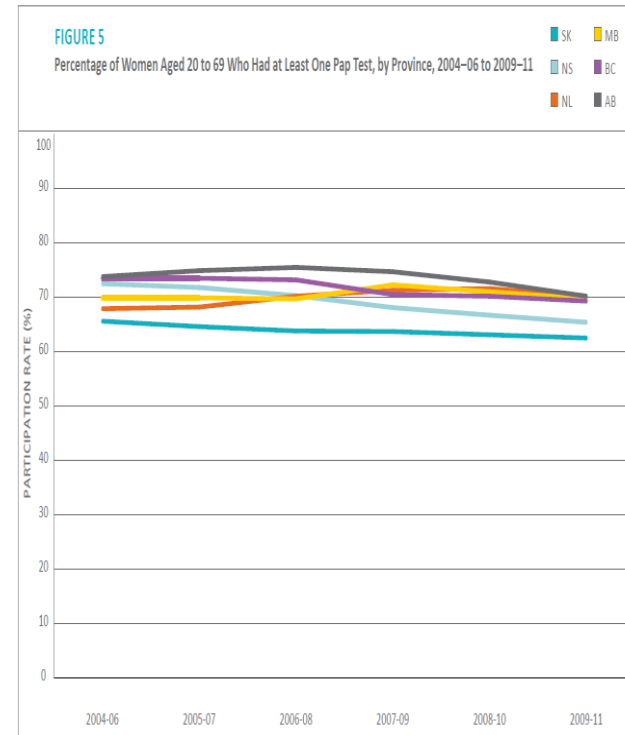
## 2. Screening

- Shift to HPV from cytology
- Reach the under-screened
- Self testing, community mobilization
- Target 90%



# How are we Doing?

- Screening rates in Canada plateaued
- Active innovation across the country
  - Community based
  - Evidence based
  - Self testing
  - HPV



# HPV Testing: European experience

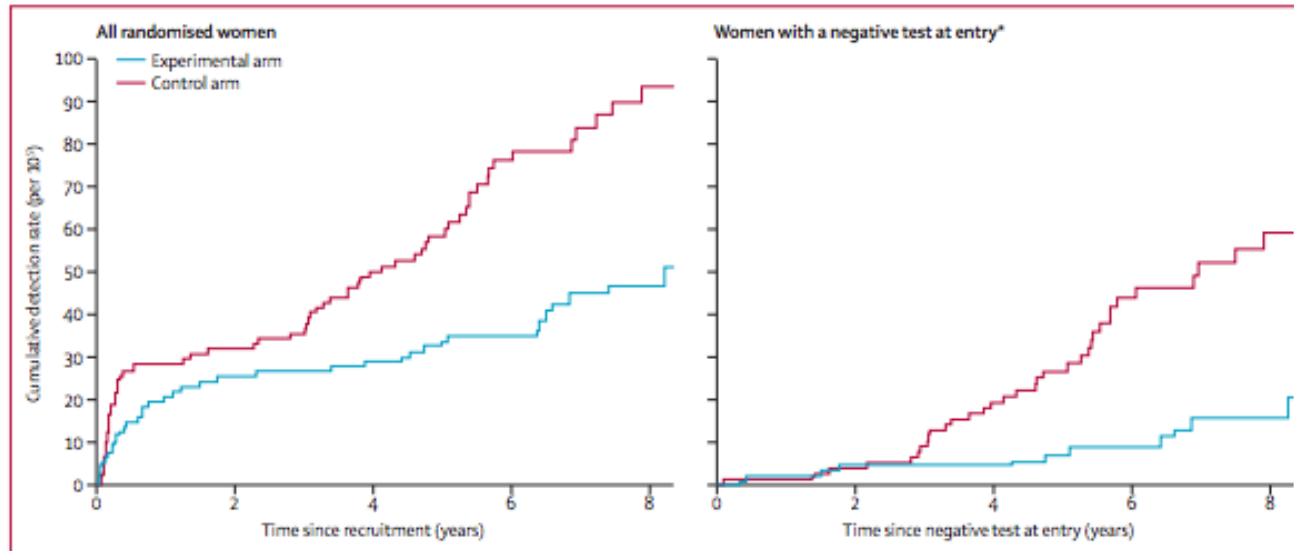


Figure 2: Cumulative detection of invasive cervical carcinoma

\*Observations are censored 2-5 years after CIN2 or CIN3 detection, if any.

- Randomized trial in 4 European countries:
  - Conventional cytology or HPV
  - Rescreened in 3-5 years
  - HPV superior in reducing invasive cancer

www.thelancet.com Vol 383 February 8, 2014

# Focal



Does cervical cancer screening using primary cervical HPV testing compared with liquid-based cytology result in a lower likelihood of cervical intraepithelial neoplasia grade 3 or worse (CIN3+) at 48 months?

**CONCLUSION** HPV-based screening resulted in a significantly lower likelihood of CIN3+ than cytology at 48 months, but further research is needed to understand long-term clinical outcomes as well as cost-effectiveness.

## POPULATION



19 009 Women

Women aged 25 to 65 years with no history of CIN2+

Mean age: 45 years

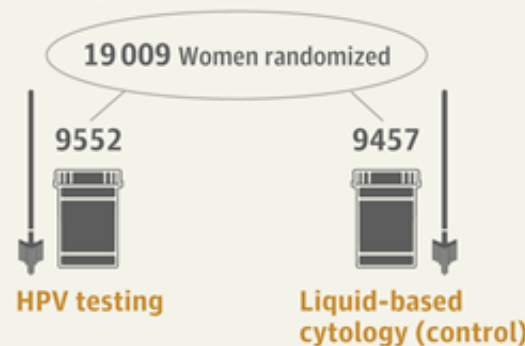
## LOCATIONS

224

Collaborating clinicians in Canada



## INTERVENTION



## PRIMARY OUTCOME

Cumulative incidence of CIN3+ 48 months following randomization

## FINDINGS

Incidence of CIN3+ at 48 months

**HPV testing**

2.3/1000 women  
(95% CI, 1.5 to 3.5)

**Liquid-based cytology**

5.5/1000 women  
(95% CI, 4.2 to 7.2)

Absolute between-group difference:

**-3.22/1000** women  
(95% CI, -5.12 to -1.48)

© AMA

Ogilvie GS, van Niekerk D, Kraiden M, et al. Effect of screening with primary cervical HPV testing vs cytology testing on high-grade cervical intraepithelial neoplasia at 48 months: the HPV FOCAL randomized clinical trial [published July 3, 2018]. *JAMA*. doi:10.1001/jama.2018.7464

# Screening challenges

## Public

- No longer an annual ritual
- Confusion about guidelines
- Different cultural views
- Vulnerable peoples

## MD

- Reluctant to do Pap
- Confused by changing guidelines

## New Screening tools

- Self screening
- HPV testing

# What will it take?

3. Treatment of pre-invasive disease
  - Follow up of abnormal results
  - Target 90%

# How are we Doing?

THE STAR

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## **25% of women with abnormal Pap didn't get follow-up**

- 26% of patients with high grade abnormalities did not have any follow-up for up to 2 years.
- Smears showing a possibility of malignancy or cancer had a loss to follow-up rate of 17% and 28%, respectively.

Kupets Gynecologic Oncology  
Volume 121, Issue 3, 1 June 2011, Pages 499-504

# What will it take?

## 4. Our will

- This is the one chance we will get
- Once disease slips beneath radar, will for programme will weaken
- Double down

# How are we doing?

- Canadian Partnership against Cancer
  - National steering committee
  - Gathering evidence
  - Developing plan
  - Implementation



# We are Moving Ahead

## **Co-Create Pan-Canadian Action Plan to Eliminate Cervical Cancer**

- ✓ ↑ HPV immunization
- ✓ implement HPV primary screening
- ✓ maintain access to high quality cervical cancer treatment
- ✓ include First Nations, Inuit + Métis self-determined priorities
- ✓ focus on equity-based approaches to reach underserved
- ✓ incorporate public/patient perspectives
- ✓ establish indicators/targets for Canada

# Australian Modeling

## The projected timeframe until cervical cancer elimination in Australia: a modelling study

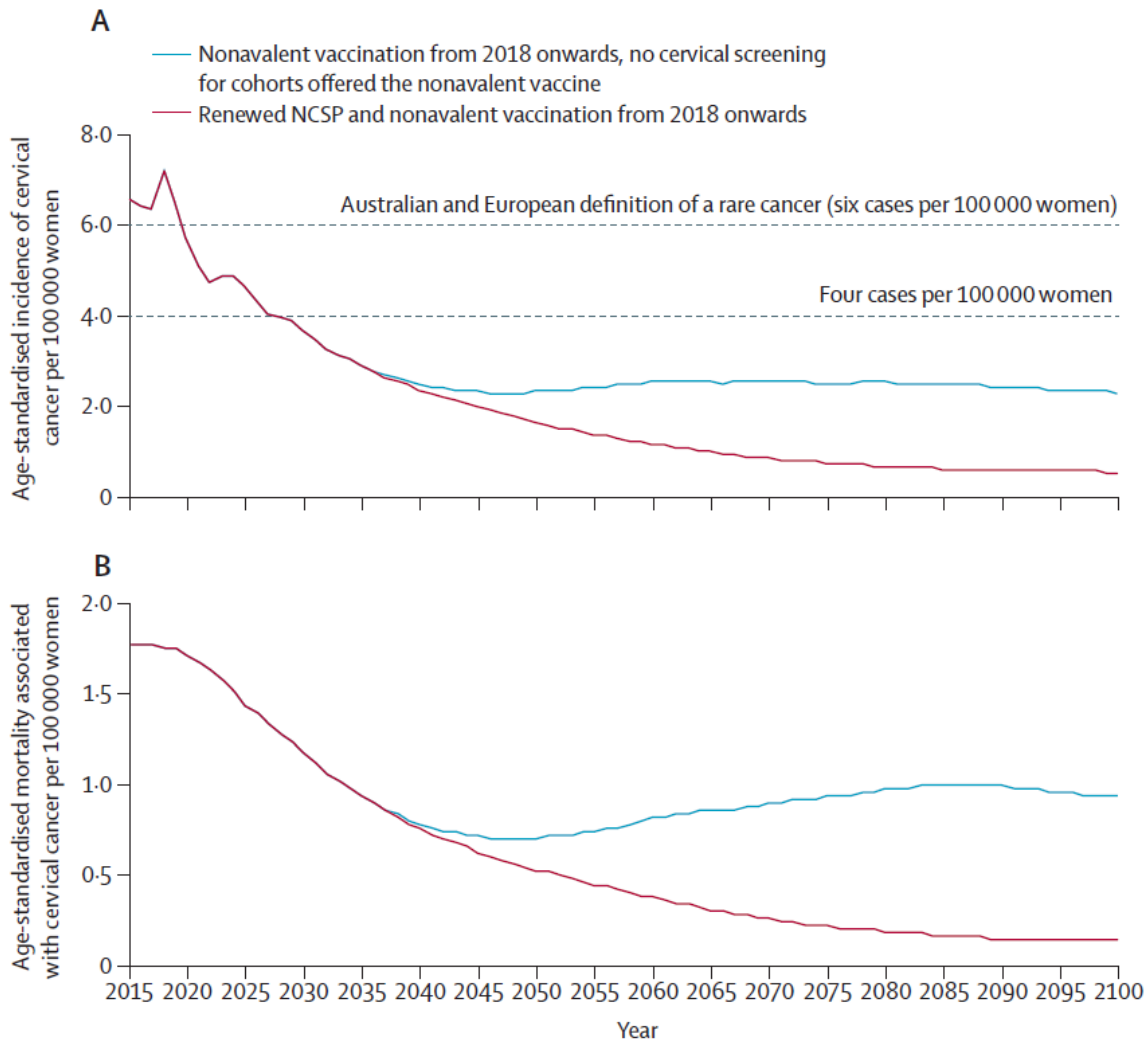
*Michaela T Hall, Kate T Simms, Jie-Bin Lew, Megan A Smith, Julia ML Brotherton, Marion Saville, Ian H Frazer, Karen Canfell*

### Summary

**Background** In 2007, Australia was one of the first countries to introduce a national human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccination programme, and it has since achieved high vaccination coverage across both sexes. In December, 2017, organised cervical screening in Australia transitioned from cytology-based screening every 2 years for women aged from 18–20 years to 69 years, to primary HPV testing every 5 years for women aged 25–69 years and exit testing for women aged 70–74 years. We aimed to identify the earliest years in which the annual age-standardised incidence of cervical cancer in Australia (which is currently seven cases per 100 000 women) could decrease below two annual thresholds that could be considered to be potential elimination thresholds: a rare cancer threshold (six new cases per 100 000 women) or a lower threshold (four new cases per 100 000 women), since Australia is likely to be one of the first countries to reach these benchmarks.

# Findings

- “We estimate that, in Australia, the incidence of cervical cancer will decrease to fewer than four new cases per 100 000 women by 2028
- Cervical cancer mortality is estimated to decrease to less than one death per 100 000 women by 2034



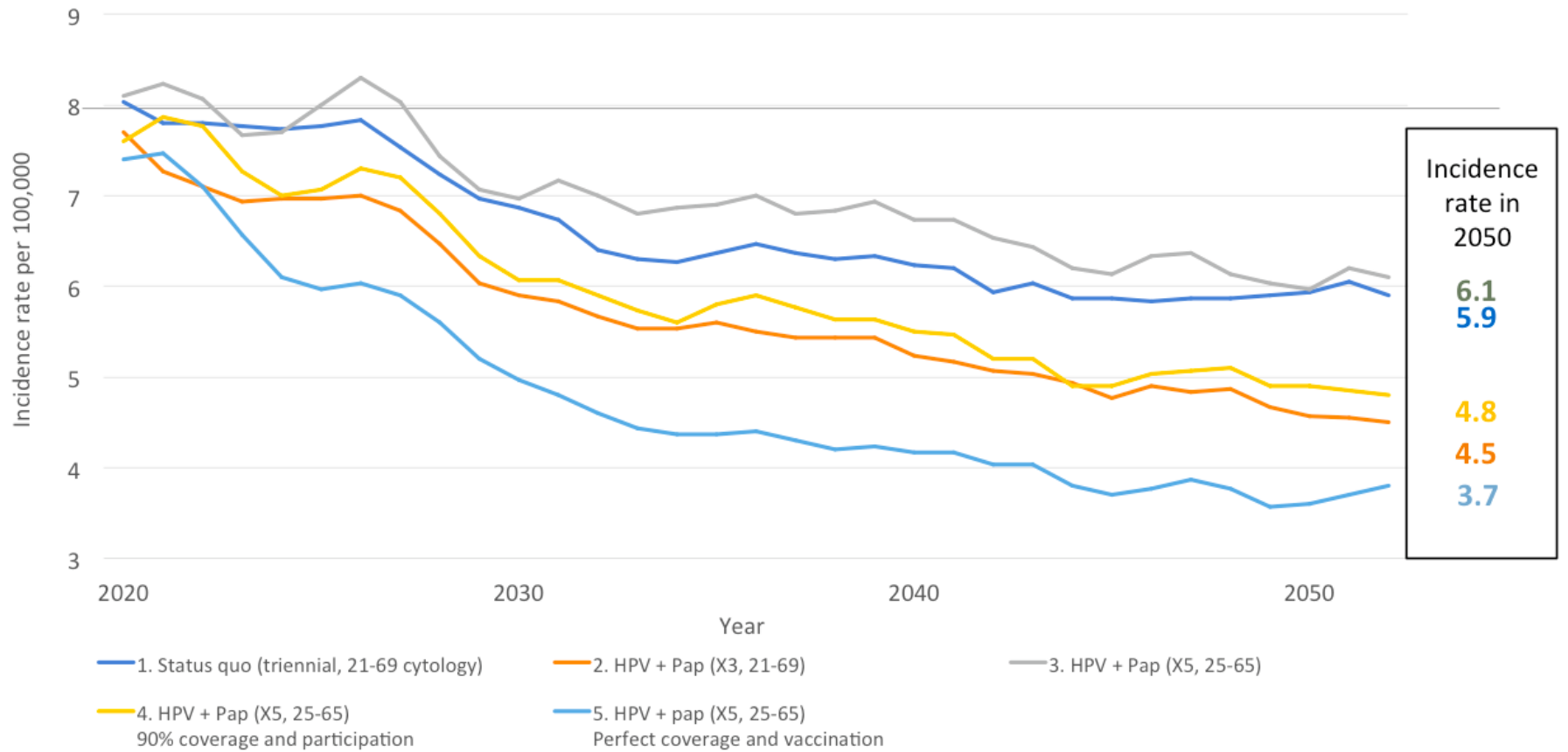
# Canadian modelling

- Oncosim
- CPAC, Dr. Cathy Popadiuk

# Screening and vaccination scenarios

Scenario ID	1	2	3	4	5
Description	Status quo	Status quo with HPV testing	Recommended HPV testing	HPV testing with short-term catch-up & better coverage	HPV testing with long-term catch-up & perfect coverage
Screening Method	Cytology	HPV + Pap triage	HPV + Pap triage	HPV + Pap triage	HPV + Pap triage
Age range	21 to 69	21 to 69	25 to 65	25 to 65	25 to 65
Frequency	Every 3 years	Every 3 years	Every 5 years	Every 5 years	Every 5 years
Screening participation	90%	90%	90%	95%	100%
Rescreen rate	80%	80%	80%	95%	100%
Vaccination coverage	70%	70%	70%	90%	100%
Catch up program	N/A	N/A	N/A	Boys and girls (13-26) 2019-2021	Boys and girls (over 13) 2019-onwards

Cervical cancer age-standardized incidence rate (per 100,000)

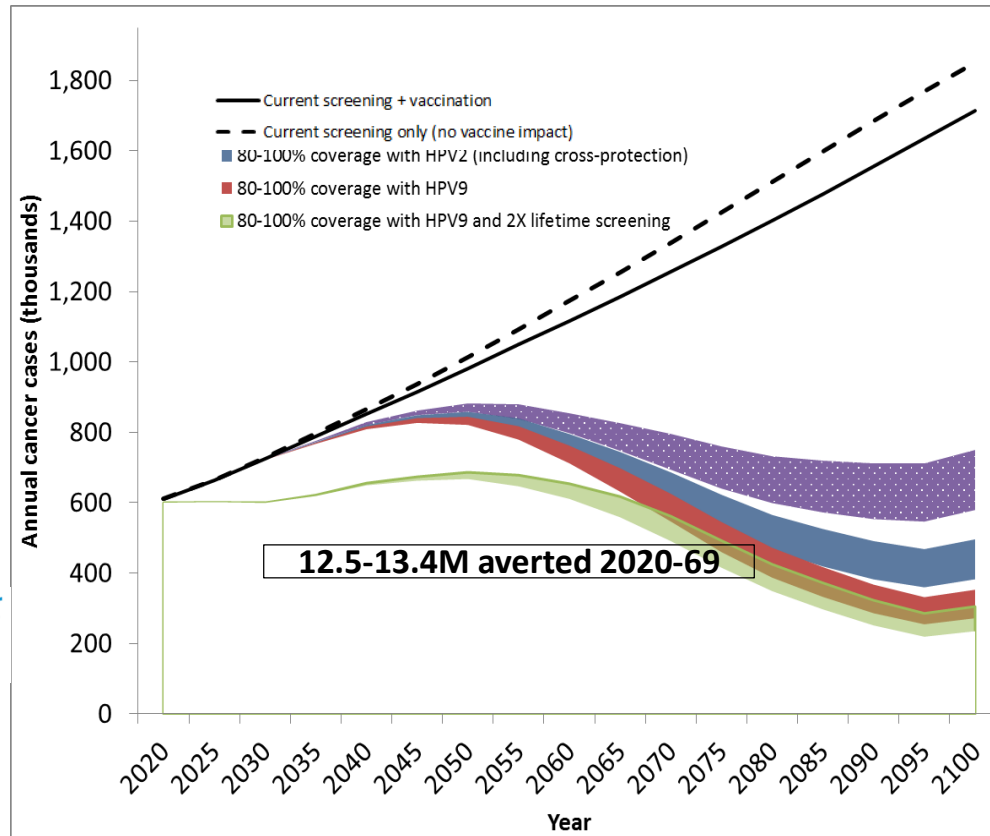


# What are our challenges?

1. Thinking about cancer control instead of infectious disease elimination
2. Over-simplifying vaccine hesitancy
3. Stigma and social inequalities in burden of disease
4. Elimination as a “public health priority”
5. Thinking locally: viruses don’t stop at the border



# Timeline to global elimination



**1M averted 2020-29**

**4.9-6.0M averted 2020-69**

**6.1-7.1M averted 2020-69**

**6.7-7.7M averted 2020-69**

**12.5-13.4M averted 2020-69**

*Simms KT et al., Lancet Oncology 2019*

# What are the risks?

- The disease will be a burden on the most vulnerable
- The global burden will increase as we reduce childhood mortality and maternal mortality
- We will miss the opportunity for elimination

# Finally: Our Commitment

1. Elimination
2. No one left behind