

Developments in Gynecologic Disease: What Primary Care Providers should know

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Colleen Feltmate M.D.



- SUNY Stony Brook MD Distinction in research
- BWH/MGH Ob/Gyn residency
- BWH Gynecologic Oncology Fellowship
- Director of Minimally Invasive Gynecologic Oncology
- Fellowship Program Director Gynecologic Oncology
- Director, Ambulatory Gynecologic Oncology
- **Clinical focus:** Minimally invasive surgical outcomes, surgical innovation
- **Research focus:** surgical outcomes, quality improvement

DISCLOSURES

- Author for Up-To-Date



OBJECTIVE:

- Review the ever-changing landscape for HPV related disease including screening and vaccination data
- Update providers on innovations to ovarian cancer
- Increase awareness of issues of racial disparities in Endometrial cancer
- Financial toxicity for patients with gynecologic cancers



KEY TAKE HOME POINTS

Women who have an unknown pap smear history or who have persistent high risk HPV infections have a high risk for developing cervical dysplasia

The HPV vaccine is most effective when given before age 15. After age 26 there is little data supporting its effectiveness in large populations.

Women with abnormal bleeding need referrals to gynecologists as ultrasound is not a reliable method, especially in black populations

Newer drugs have a marked effect on survival in certain subsets of ovarian cancer patients

Women treated for gynecologic malignancies are at significant risk for financial toxicity and should be screened for financial insecurity



REFERENCES

Marcus, Jenna Z. MD1; Cason, Patty RN, MS, FNP-BC2; Downs, Levi S. Jr. MD, MS3; Einstein, Mark H. MD, MS1; Flowers, Lisa MD4. The ASCCP Cervical Cancer Screening Task Force Endorsement and Opinion on the American Cancer Society Updated Cervical Cancer Screening Guidelines. Journal of Lower Genital Tract Disease 25(3):p 187-191, July 2021.

U.S. Cancer Statistics Working Group. U.S. Cancer Statistics Data Visualizations Tool, based on 2020 submission data (1999-2018): U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and National Cancer Institute; <https://www.cdc.gov/cancer/dataviz>, released in June 2021.



Case 1

30 year old G0 presents for cervical cancer screening. You offer her:

- A. Cytology annually**
- B. Co-testing q3 years**
- C. Co-testing q 5 years if all results are normal**
- D. Primary HPV testing if the lab has an FDA approved test (i.e. Cobas or BD onclarity) q 5 years**
- ✓ **E. Either c or d is acceptable**



Who is at risk for cervical cancer?

- Persistent high risk HPV infection (especially 16/18)
- Immunosuppression
- Intercourse ≤ 17 y/o or ≥ 6 lifetime partners
- OCPs
- High parity
- Smoking



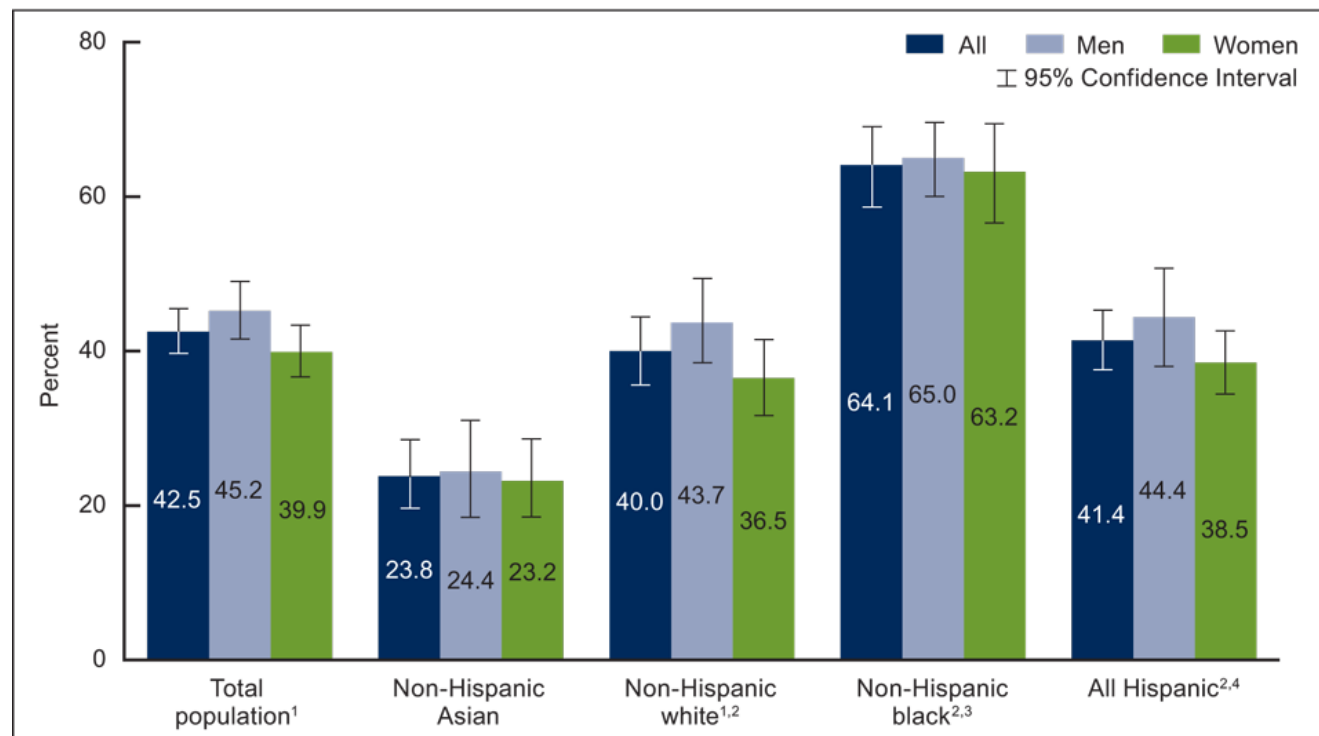
Natural History of CIN/Dysplasia

- Most HPV infections “resolve”
- Dysplasia is linked persistent high-risk (oncogenic) HPV
- Higher levels of dysplasia are more likely to progress to cancer
- Prior abnormalities of Pap or HPV indicate patient is at higher risk of progression
 - May indicate a persistent HPV infection



Prevalence of HPV infection among females in the United States

Figure 3. Prevalence of any genital HPV among adults aged 18–59, by race and Hispanic origin and sex: United States, 2013–2014



¹Percentage for men is significantly higher than women.

²Percentage is significantly different from non-Hispanic Asian, all, men, and women.

³Percentage is significantly different from non-Hispanic white, all, men, and women.

⁴Percentage is significantly different from non-Hispanic black, all, men, and women.

NOTES: HPV is human papillomavirus. Any genital HPV means tested positive to one or more of the 37 HPV types from a penile or vaginal swab sample. Penile samples were available only for 2013–2014, so results presented were limited to that cycle. Access data table for Figure 3 at: https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/data-briefs/db280_table.pdf#3.

SOURCE: NCHS, National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey, 2013–2014.



Screening v Surveillance: An important distinction

Screening is testing for disease among patients with no symptoms and ALL normal prior results.

Surveillance is interval testing among women and people with a cervix who have a prior abnormal test result or have received treatment.



Women who do not qualify for routine “screening”

- Women who are immunosuppressed
- Women previously treated for CIN2/ CIN3 or any HPV related disease (vulvar, vaginal, anal)
- Women for whom you do not know their exact screening history also remain at higher risk and cannot return to “routine screening.”
- Women who have any abnormal genital tract symptoms



Comparison of Current Screening Guidelines & Recommendations for Average-risk Individuals

	American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG), 2020	US Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF), 2018	American Cancer Society (ACS), 2020
Age to start screening	21		25
Screening test options and intervals	<p>Ages 21-65: Cytology alone every 3 years OR Ages 21-29: Cytology alone every 3 years Ages 30-65: Cytology plus HPV testing every 5 years OR Ages 21-29: Cytology alone every 3 years Ages 30-65: HPV testing alone every 5 years[†]</p>		<p>Ages 25-65+ Preferred: HPV testing alone every 5 years OR Acceptable: Either Cytology plus HPV testing every 5 years OR Cytology alone every 3 years</p>
Age to end screening	<p>65 if 3 consecutive negative Pap tests OR 2 negative cytology plus HPV tests OR 2 negative HPV tests AND no abnormal tests within the prior 10 years with the most recent within the prior 5 years AND no CIN2+ within the prior 25 years</p>		

New Screening and Management Guidelines: USPSTF, ACS, ASCO and ASCCP

Old:

- Based on cytology
- Algorithm based
- Relied on Expert opinion

New:

- Primarily HPV based with reflex to cytology or HPV16/18 genotyping
- Frequency and management are based on “risk” which relies on prior results



What is Primary HPV Screening?

- Primary HPV testing is testing for HPV first, followed by a triage test such as cytology and/or HPV genotyping, if the initial test is positive.
- The presence of a high risk HPV type indicates a risk for developing a cervical precancer or cancer—especially if the HPV test remains positive over time (years)
- There are only a few HPV tests that are currently FDA approved for primary testing.
- *Historically cervical cancer screening was done with either Pap testing (cytology) or Pap plus HPV test (co-testing)*

Advantages of Primary HPV Screening

Improved sensitivity for CIN3+ over cytology alone
(↑detection by 50%)

- Minimal loss of sensitivity over cotesting for CIN 3+. Difference not statistically significant for cancer diagnosis

More efficient than co-testing

- Similar reduction in cancer but requires far fewer tests overall

Potential for self-collection

Improve access

Wright TC, et al. The ATHENA human papillomavirus study: design, methods, and baseline results. *Am J Obstet Gynecol*. 2012;206(1):46.e1-46.e11.

Wright TC, et al. Primary cervical cancer screening with human papillomavirus: End of study results from the ATHENA study using HPV as the first-line screening test. *Gynecol Oncol*. 2015;136(2):189-97.

Huh WK, et al. Use of primary high-risk human papillomavirus testing for cervical cancer screening: Interim clinical guidance. *Obstet Gynecol*. 2015;125(2):330-337.

Castle PE, et al. Variable risk of cervical precancer and cancer after a human papillomavirus-positive test. *Obstet Gynecol*. 2011;117(3):650-656.

Gage JC, et al. Reassurance against future risk of precancer and cancer conferred by a negative human papillomavirus test. *J Natl Cancer Inst*. 2014;106(8):dju 153.

Fontham ETH, Wolf AMD, Church TR, Etzioni R, Flowers CR, Herzig A, Guerra CE, Oeffinger KC, Shih YT, Walter LC, Kim JJ, Andrews KS, DeSantis CE, Fedewa SA, Manassaram-Baptiste D, Saslow D, Wender RC, Smith RA. Cervical cancer screening for individuals at average risk: 2020 guideline update from the American Cancer Society. *CA Cancer J Clin*. 2020 Sep;70(5):321-346.

Disadvantages of Primary HPV Screening

Lack of specificity

Requires integrated infrastructure

Only two tests are FDA approved for primary HPV testing (Cobas and BD Onclarity)

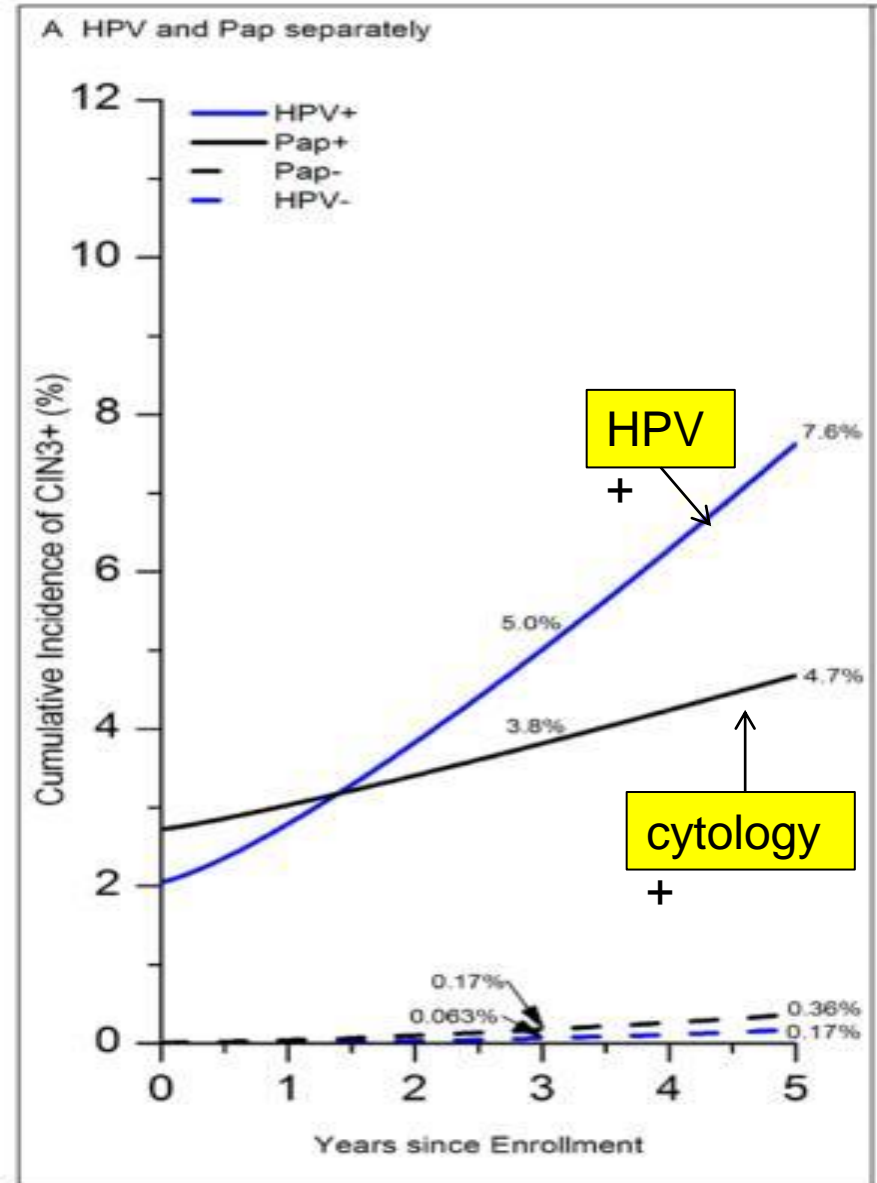
1. Wright TC, et al. The ATHENA human papillomavirus study: design, methods, and baseline results. *Am J Obstet Gynecol*. 2012;206(1):46.e1-46.e11.
2. Wright TC, et al. Primary cervical cancer screening with human papillomavirus: End of study results from the ATHENA study using HPV as the first-line screening test. *Gynecol Oncol*. 2015;136(2):189-97.
3. Huh WK, et al. Use of primary high-risk human papillomavirus testing for cervical cancer screening: Interim clinical guidance. *Obstet Gynecol*. 2015;125(2):330-337.
4. Castle PE, et al. Variable risk of cervical precancer and cancer after a human papillomavirus-positive test. *Obstet Gynecol*. 2011;117(3):650-656.
5. Gage JC, et al. Reassurance against future risk of precancer and cancer conferred by a negative human papillomavirus test. *J Natl Cancer Inst*. 2014;106(8):dju 153.
6. Fontham ETH, Wolf AMD, Church TR, Etzioni R, Flowers CR, Herzig A, Guerra CE, Oeffinger KC, Shih YT, Walter LC, Kim JJ, Andrews KS, DeSantis CE, Fedewa SA, Manassaram-Baptiste D, Saslow D, Wender RC, Smith RA. Cervical cancer screening for individuals at average risk: 2020 guideline update from the American Cancer Society. *CA Cancer J Clin*. 2020 Sep;70(5):321-346.

THE SWITCH: REFLEX CYTOLOGY V REFLEX HPV



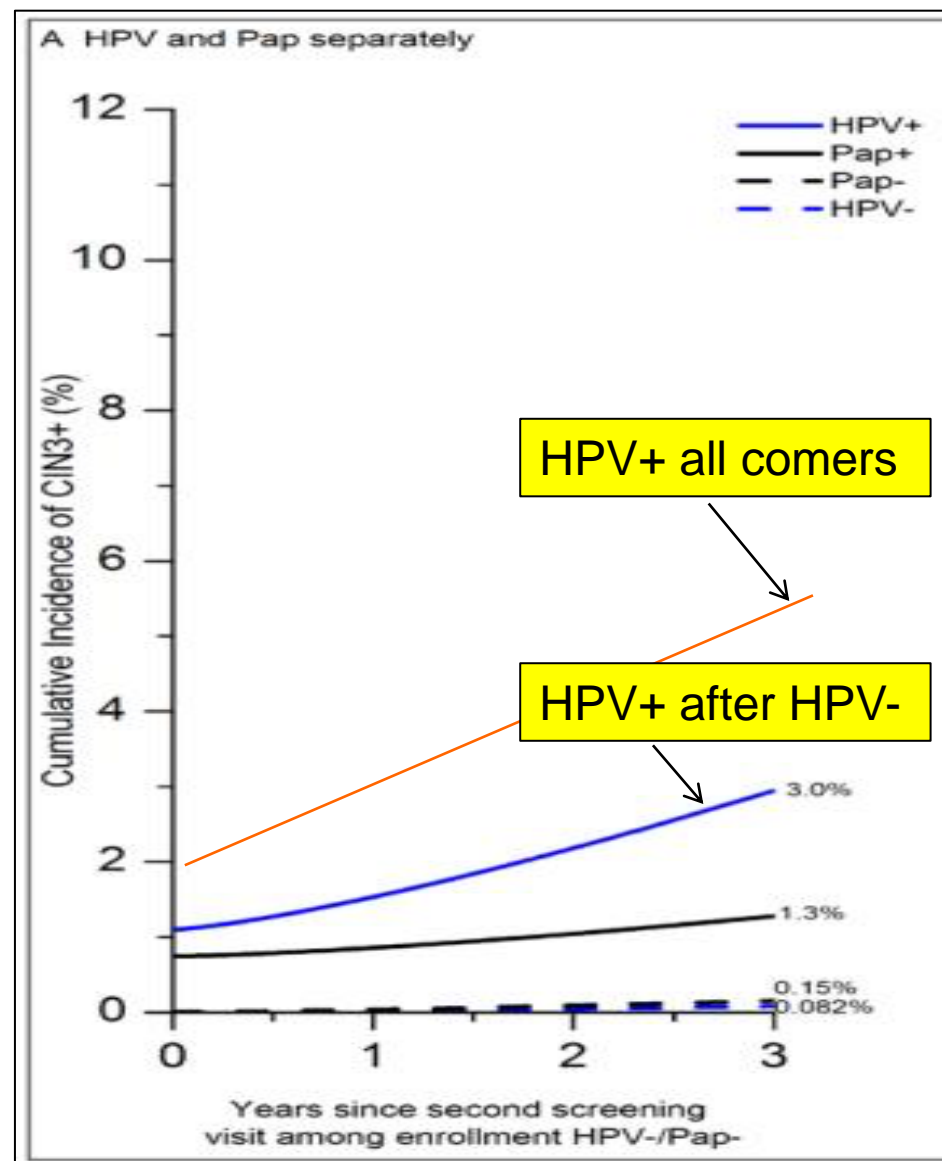
HPV testing predicts future risk better than cytology

- 331,818 women over 2003-2009
- Followed for 5 years for CIN3+
- Both HPV and cytology predicted risk on the date of screening
- *HPV predicted 5-year risk of CIN3 and cancer*



New HPV infection confers lower CIN3+ risk

- 331,818 women over 2003-2009
- Risk of CIN3+ at 3 years
 - 5% with unknown prior HPV result
 - 3% with negative prior HPV result



Primary HPV Screening Compared to Co-Testing

Primary HPV screening results in similar reduction in cancer rates compared to co-testing, with far fewer tests

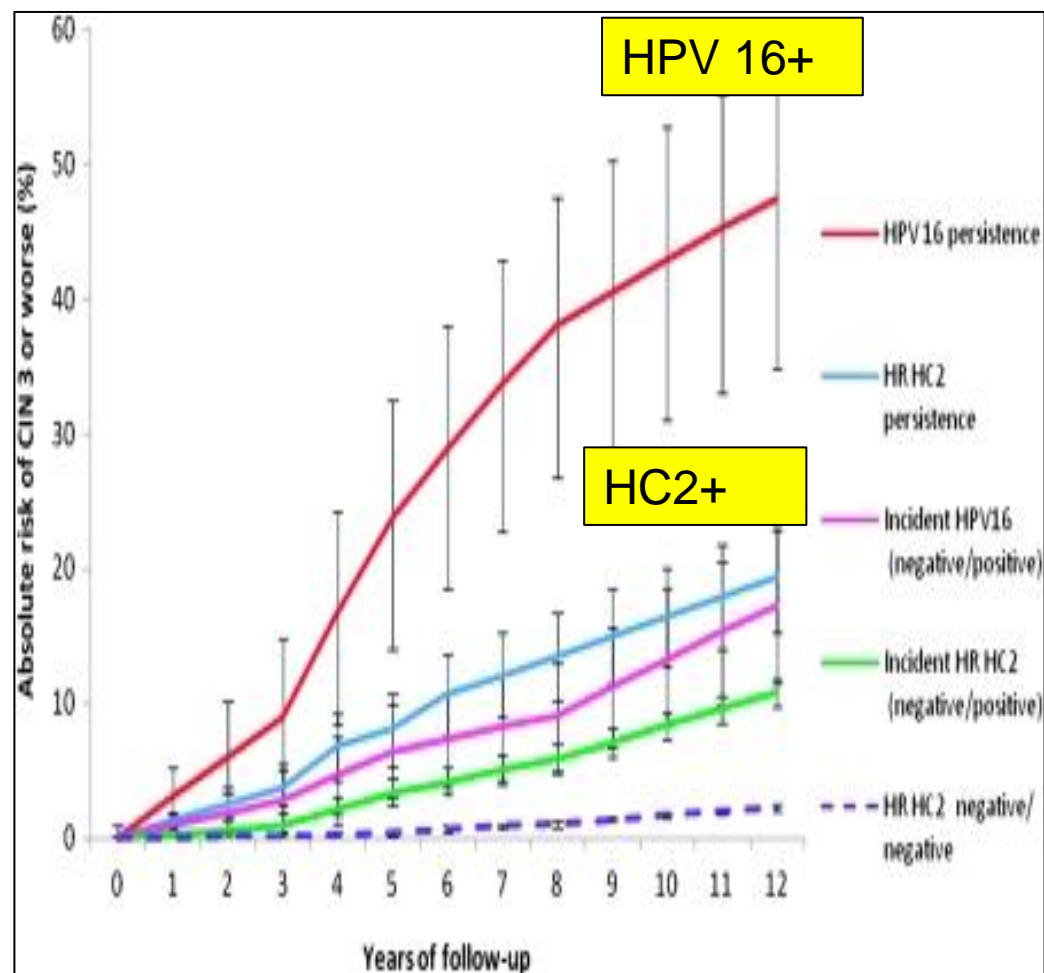
Strategy	Total Tests	Colpos	CIN 2,3	Cancer Cases	Cancer Deaths
No screening	0	0	0	18.86	8.34
Cyto q 3 y age 25-65	13,313	564	142	2.60	0.86
Cyto q 3 y from age 21 then Co-test q 5 y age 30-65	19,806	1,630	201	1.08	0.30
HPV q5 y age 25-65	10,954	1,775	195	0.94	0.28

**Per 1,000 persons with a cervix, screened over a lifetime.*

Fontham ETH, et al. Cervical cancer screening for individuals at average risk: 2020 guideline update from the American Cancer Society. *CA Cancer J Clin.* 2020;70(5):321-346.

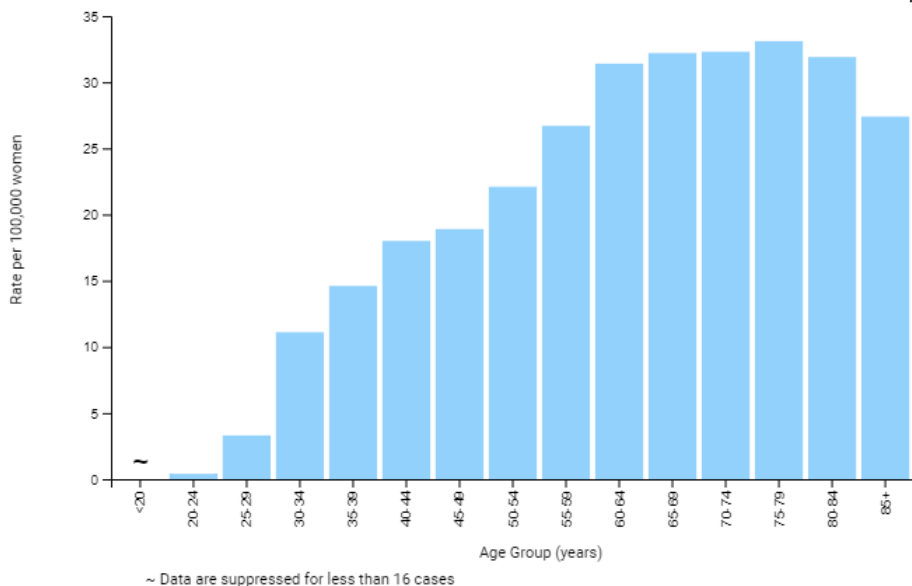
Long-term persistent HPV is especially high risk

- 8656 women age 20-29 underwent co-testing years 1 & 3
- Followed for 12 years for CIN3+
- Risk of CIN3+
 - 47% persistent HPV16+
 - 19% persistent HC2
 - HPV neg 2%
- *HPV history is an important risk modifier*



Rate of New HPV-associated Cancers By Age Group (years)

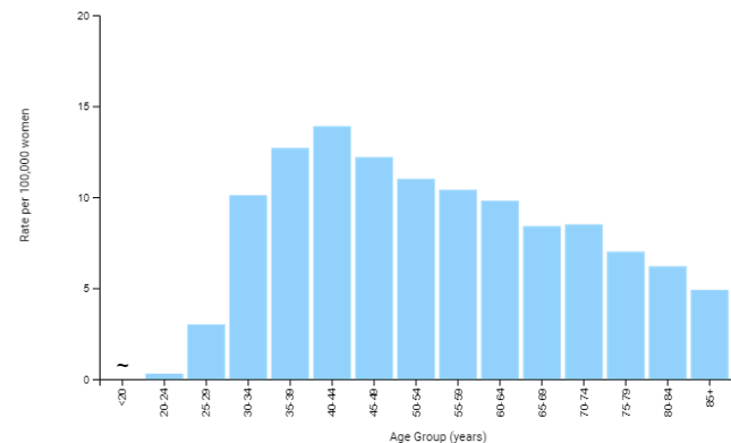
All HPV-associated Cancers, Female, United States, 2020



~ Data are suppressed for less than 16 cases

Rate of New HPV-associated Cancers By Age Group (years)

Cervical Carcinoma, Female, United States, 2020



~ Data are suppressed for less than 16 cases

Source - U.S. Cancer Statistics Working Group. U.S. Cancer Statistics Data Visualizations Tool, based on 2022 submission data (1999-2020): U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and National Cancer Institute; <https://www.cdc.gov/cancer/dataviz>, released in November 2023.





New Management Guidelines: Key Points

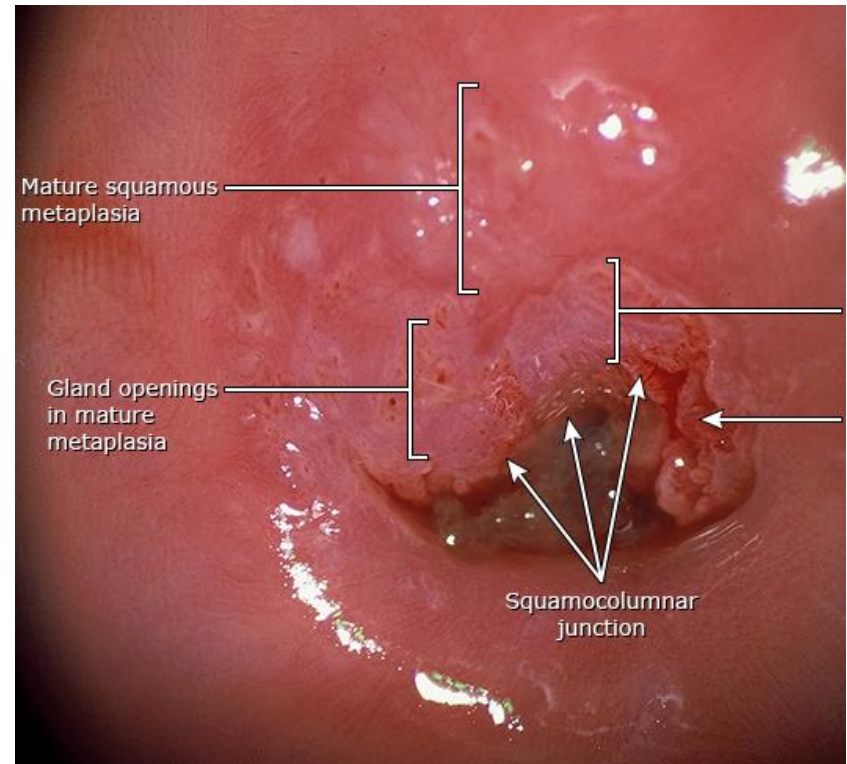
- Current test results in addition to prior HPV, cytology and histology results determine a risk group.
- New guidelines are based on a patient's risk, not just her most recent result.
- Patients with prior abnormal paps are considered surveillance patients and may never go back to 5-year screening intervals
- **Primary HPV** screening results in fewer overall test with equal efficacy in a **screening population**

If you get abnormal results with HPV positive testing, REFER IF YOU ARE UNSURE.

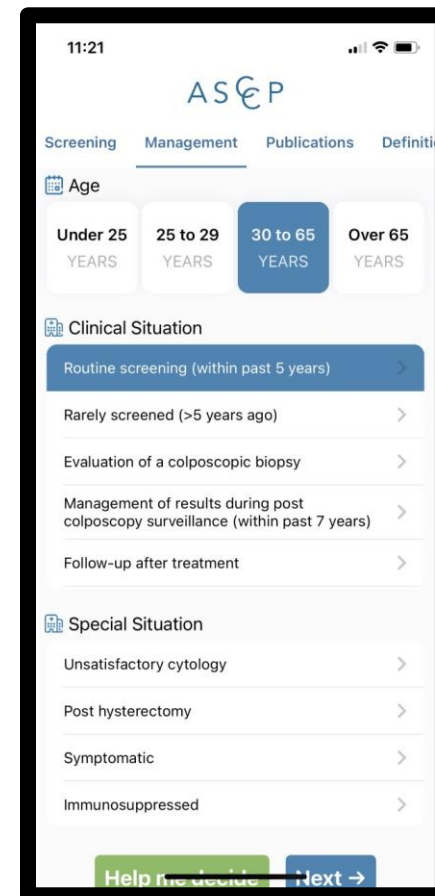
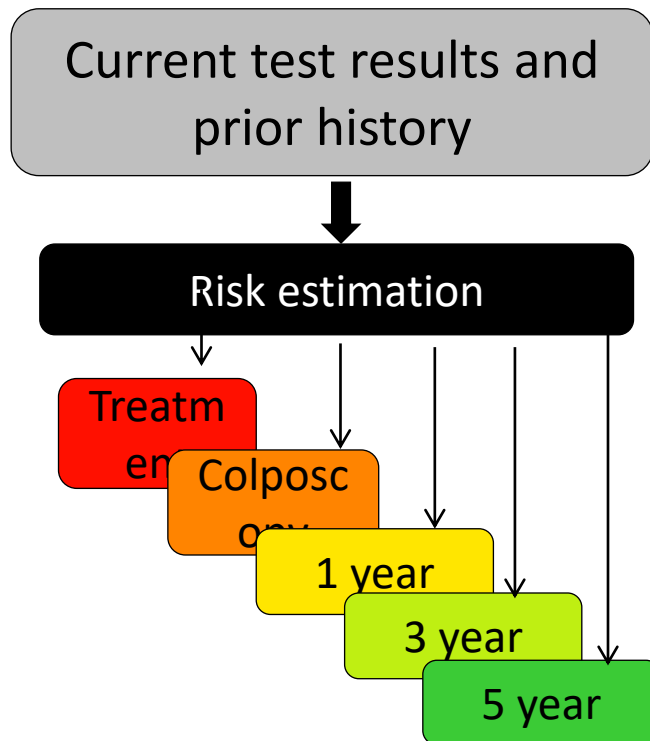


Your contribution to cervical (and other) cancer screening

- Thorough Ob/Gyn review includes history of prior paps
- Review of Family Hx of cancer
- Ask in ROS whether any bleeding or abnormal discharge (with or without intercourse)
- Ensure that the pap smears are ADEQUATE (containing cells from the transformation zone)
- Know when to REFER.

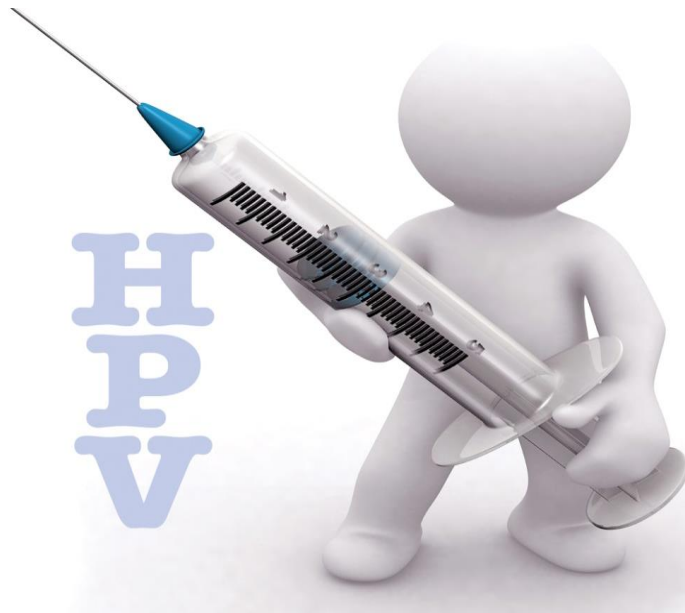


App/Website will Reduce Complexity: <https://www.asccp.org/mobile-app>



One last comment on HPV...

Primary Prevention: Prevent HPV infection before exposure HPV vaccination

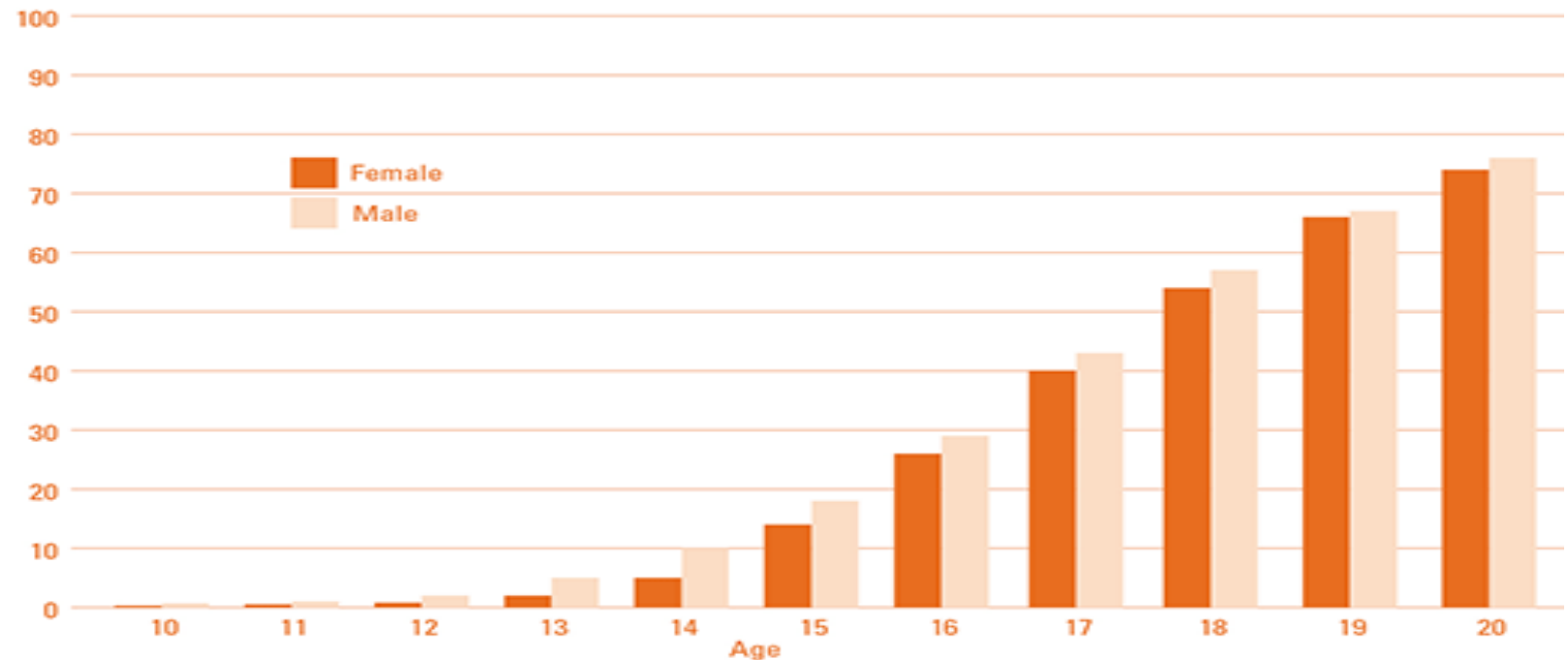


Rationale for vaccinating early: Protection prior to exposure to HPV

Teen Sexual Activity

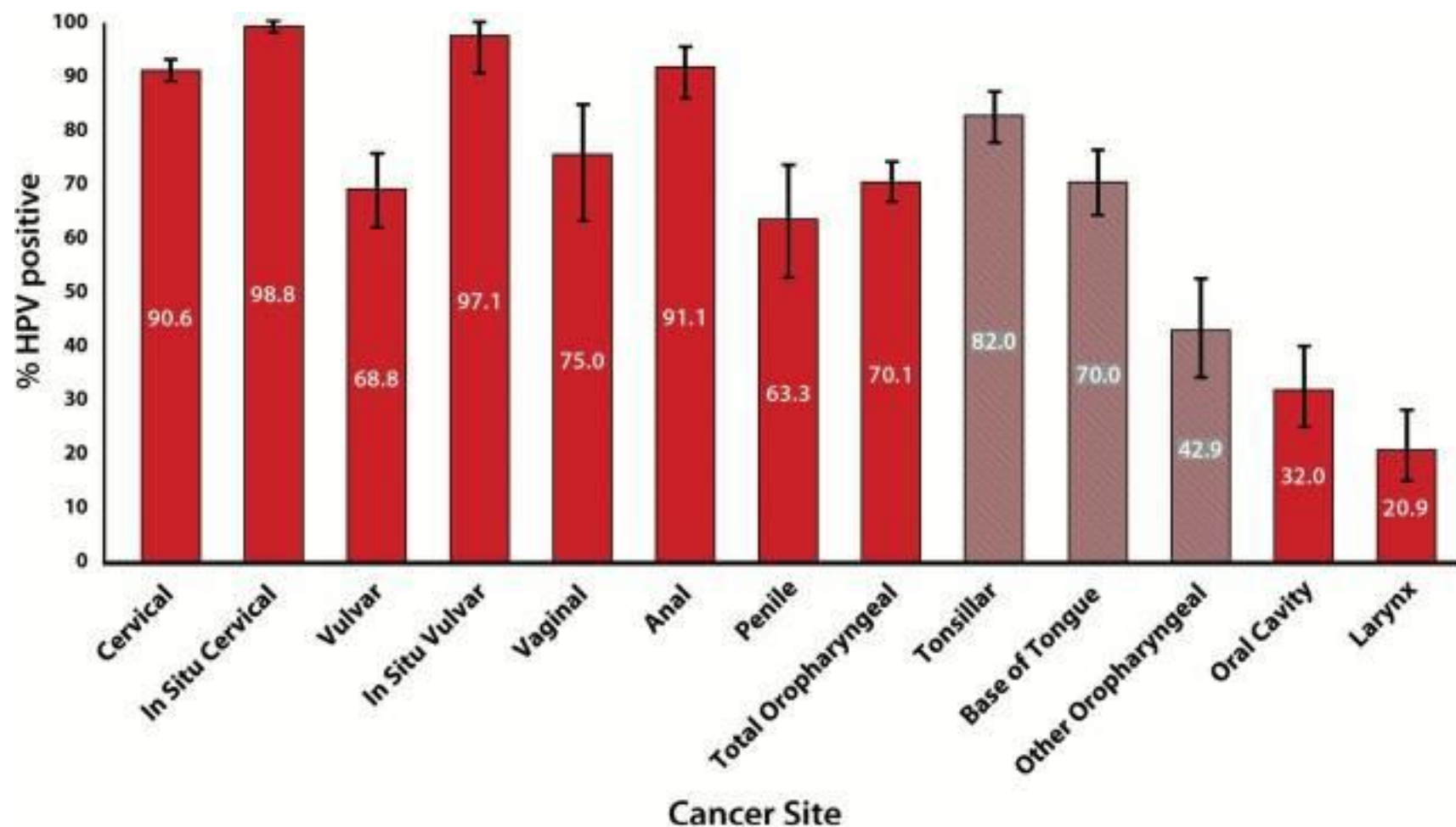
Adolescence is a time of rapid change.

% of adolescents who have had sex by each age



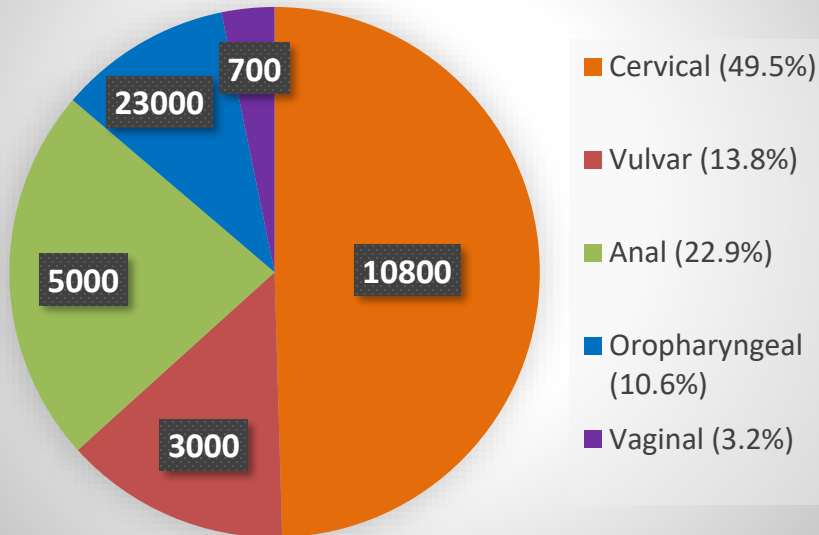
www.guttmacher.org

HPV Detection by Cancer Site

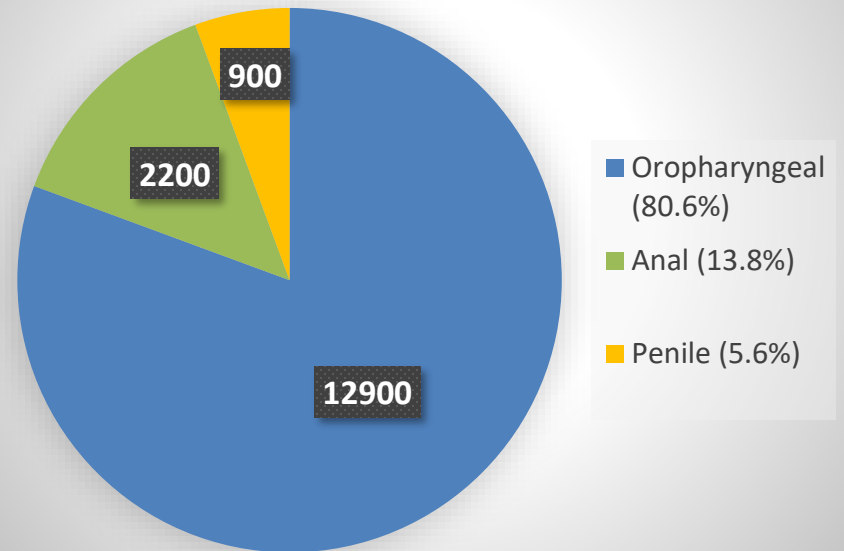


HPV-Attributable Cancers by Gender (U.S., 2017–2021)

Female HPV-Related Cancers
(n=21800)



Male HPV-Related Cancers
(n=16000)



Source: CDC – <https://www.cdc.gov/cancer/hpv/statistics/index.htm>

HPV Vaccination and Risk of Invasive Cervical Cancer

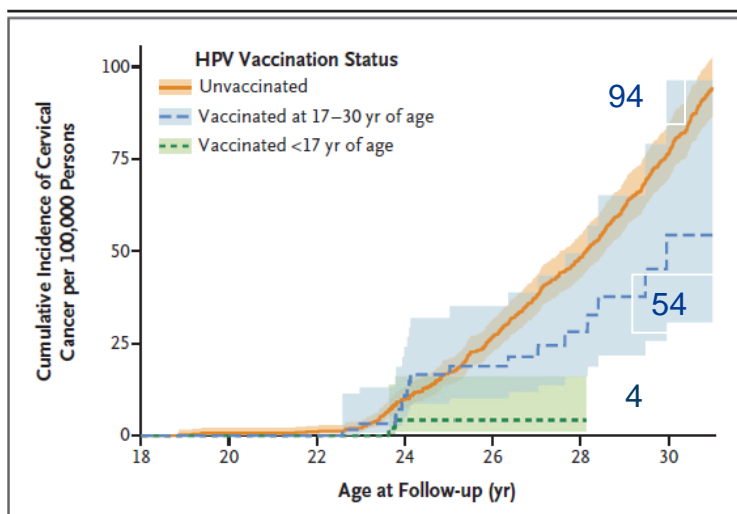


Figure 2. Cumulative Incidence of Invasive Cervical Cancer According to HPV Vaccination Status.

Age at follow-up is truncated in the graph because no cases of cervical cancer were observed in girls younger than 18 years of age.

THE NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL of MEDICINE

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

HPV Vaccination and the Risk of Invasive Cervical Cancer

Jiayao Lei, Ph.D., Alexander Ploner, Ph.D., K. Miriam Elfström, Ph.D., Jiangrong Wang, Ph.D., Adam Roth, M.D., Ph.D., Fang Fang, M.D., Ph.D., Karin Sundström, M.D., Ph.D., Joakim Dillner, M.D., Ph.D., and Pär Sparén, Ph.D.

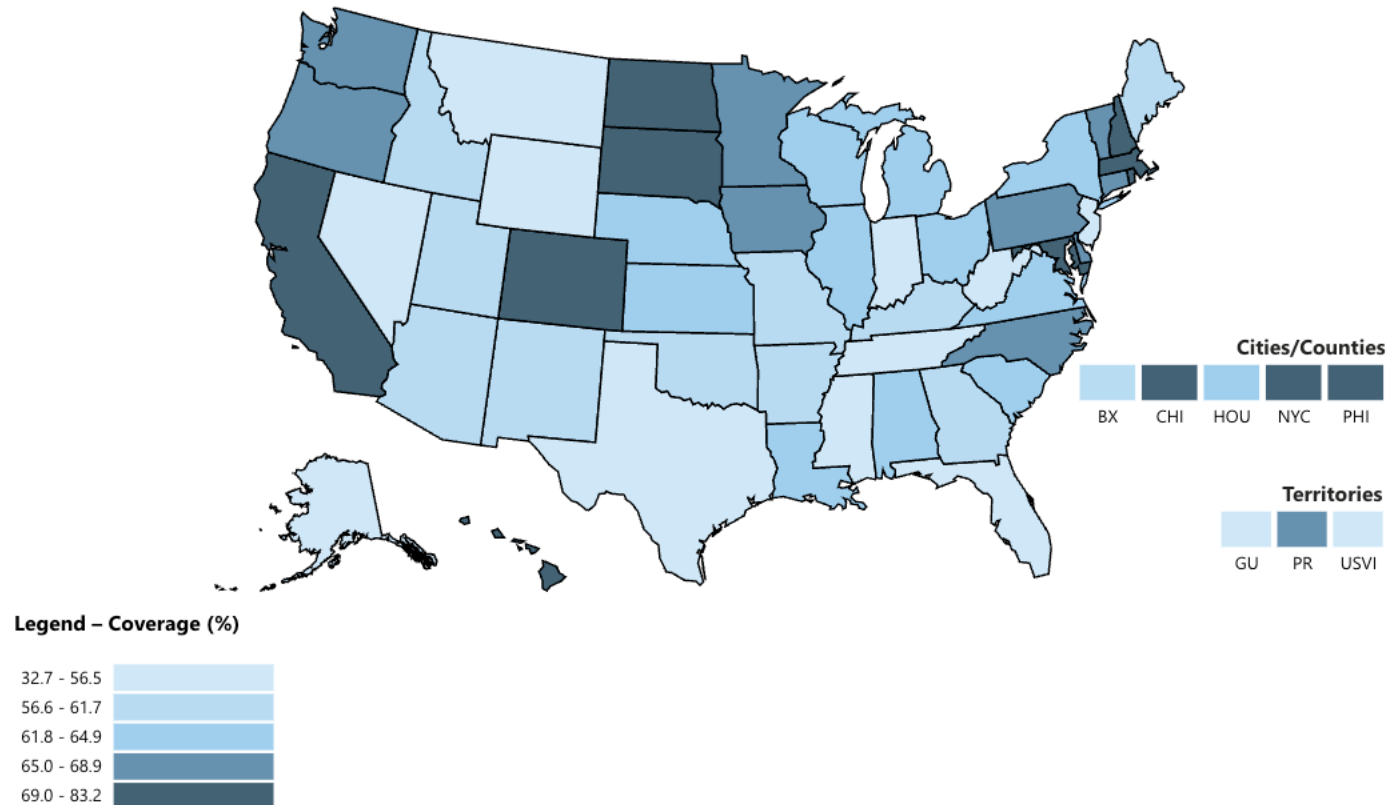
Table 2. HPV Vaccination and Invasive Cervical Cancer.

HPV Vaccination Status	No. of Cases of Cervical Cancer	Crude Incidence Rate per 100,000 Person-Yr (95% CI)	Age-Adjusted Incidence Rate Ratio (95% CI)	Adjusted Incidence Rate Ratio (95% CI)*
Unvaccinated	538	5.27 (4.84–5.73)	Reference	Reference
Vaccinated	19	0.73 (0.47–1.14)	0.51 (0.32–0.82)	0.37 (0.21–0.57)
Status according to age cutoff of 17 yr				
Vaccinated before age 17 yr	2	0.10 (0.02–0.39)	0.19 (0.05–0.75)	0.12 (0.00–0.34)
Vaccinated at age 17–30 yr	17	3.02 (1.88–4.86)	0.64 (0.39–1.04)	0.47 (0.27–0.75)
Status according to age cutoff of 20 yr				
Vaccinated before age 20 yr	12	0.49 (0.28–0.73)	0.52 (0.29–0.94)	0.36 (0.18–0.61)
Vaccinated at age 20–30 yr	7	5.16 (2.46–10.83)	0.50 (0.24–1.06)	0.38 (0.12–0.72)

* The adjusted incidence rate ratios were adjusted for age as a spline term with 3 degrees of freedom, county of residence, calendar year, mother's country of birth, highest parental education level, highest annual household income level, previous diagnosis in mother of CIN3+, and previous diagnosis in mother of cancers other than cervical cancer. The 95% confidence intervals were bias-corrected percentile confidence intervals that were estimated with the use of bootstrapping with a resampling frequency of 2000 times.



Up-to-Date HPV Vaccination Coverage among Adolescents Age 13-17 Years, 2021, National Immunization Survey-Teen



Source - U.S. Cancer Statistics Working Group. U.S. Cancer Statistics Data Visualizations Tool, based on 2020 submission data (1999-2018): U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and National Cancer Institute; <https://www.cdc.gov/cancer/dataviz>, released in June 2021.

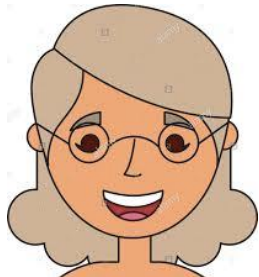
Cervical cancer prevention across the lifespan



- **Ages 9-20**
 - HPV vaccination



- **Ages 21-26**
 - Screening + catch-up vaccination



- **Ages 27-65**
 - Screening
 - *May offer vaccination to select patients age 27-45 on an individual basis using shared clinical decision-making*



Case 2

A 62 yo woman presents urgently with new 3-week onset bloating, weight gain and “tight” pants. She is otherwise healthy. Her mother and maternal aunt had a history of breast cancer but no one has had testing in her family. Next steps might include?

- A. Send her to a gynecologist
- B. Draw a Ca-125
- C. Refer to a genetic counselor
- D. Obtain an ultrasound or CT scan



Case 2 (continued)

She ultimately has a CT which reveals ascites, diffuse tumor implants.

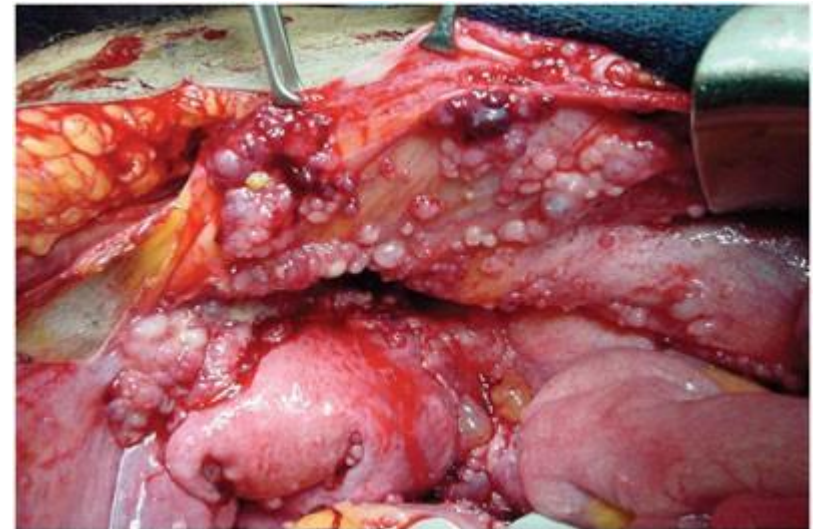
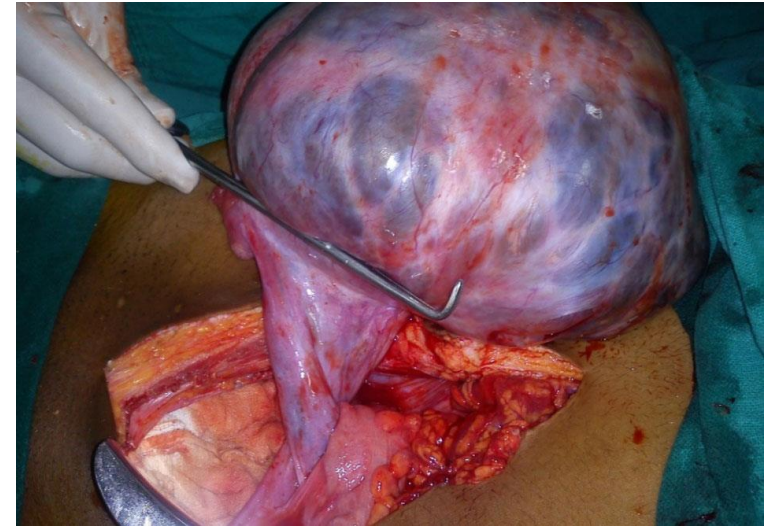
The gynecologic oncologist who assesses her must

- A. Determine surgical resectability
- B. Refer to a genetic counselor
- C. Discuss the use of chemotherapy
- ✓ D. All of the above



A brief update on ovarian cancer

- Inverse relationship between residual disease and prognosis
- Complete resection associated with the best survival
- Molecular fingerprint is a driver for treatment



Treatment options for advanced FT/Ovarian cancer

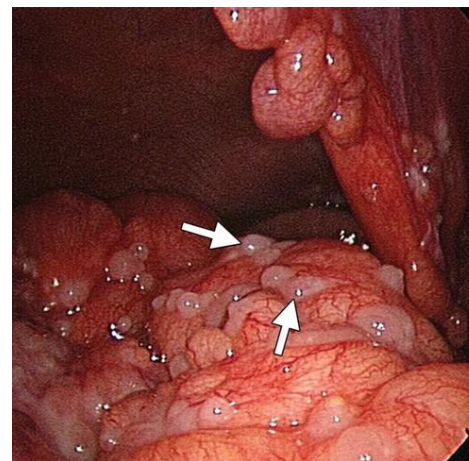
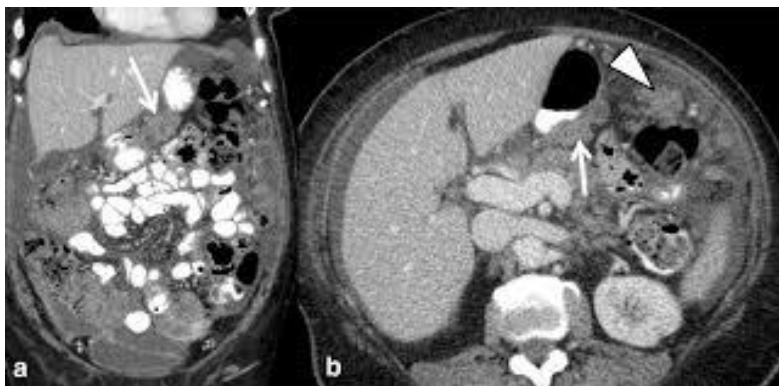
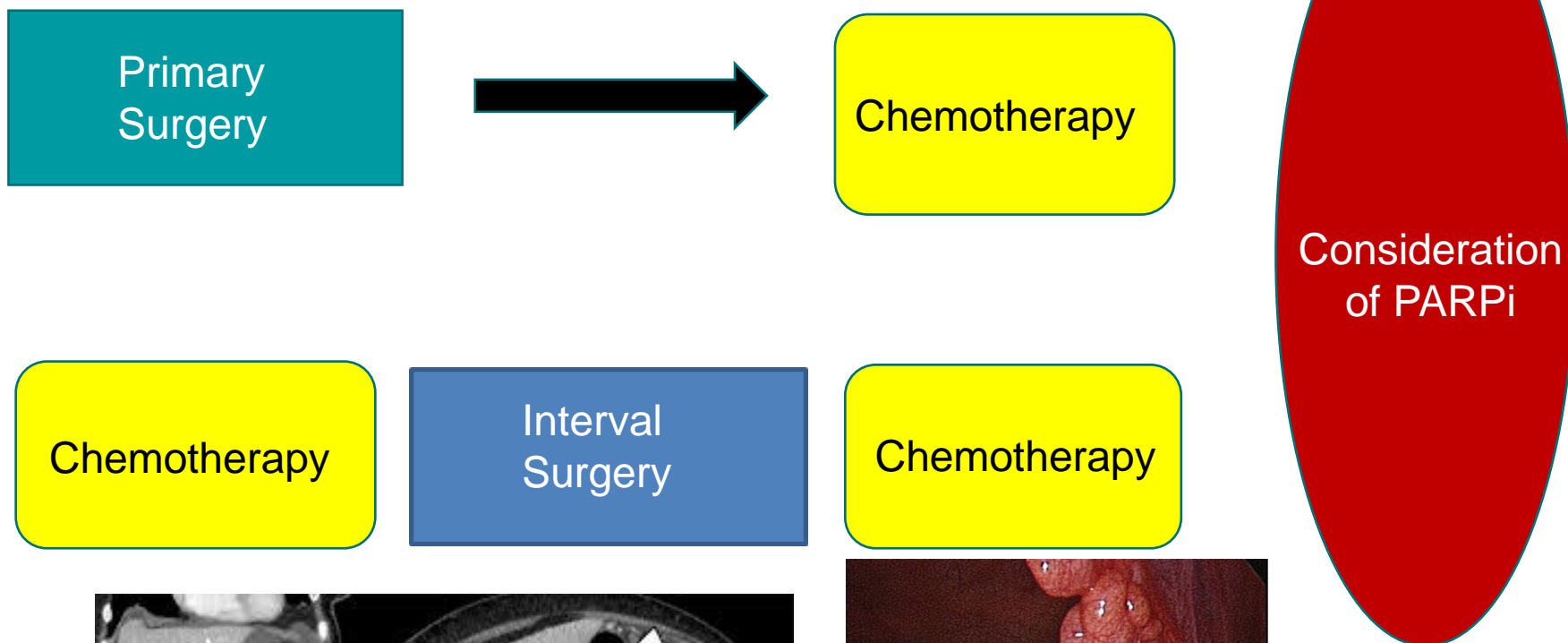


Fig. 4

Chinese cohort 28%

RAD51C, 5.3% STK11, 5.3%

PALB2, 10.5%

CHEK2, 5.3%

BRCA2, 10.5%

BRCA1, 63.2%

■ BRCA1

■ BRCA2

■ CHEK2

■ PALB2

■ RAD51C

■ STK11

Germline mutations in 62 patients



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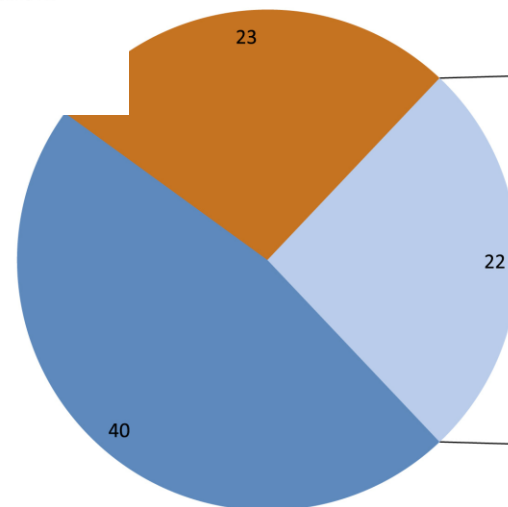
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Hereditary Ovarian Cancer and Risk Reduction

Lesley Andrews, MB.BS., M.Med^{a,*}, David G. Mutch^b

Genetic Testing in Ovarian cancer Populations: A new normal

US Cohort 24%



■ BRCA1

■ BRCA2

■ TP53

■ RAD51C

■ RAD50

■ PALB2

■ NBN

■ MRE11

■ CHEK2

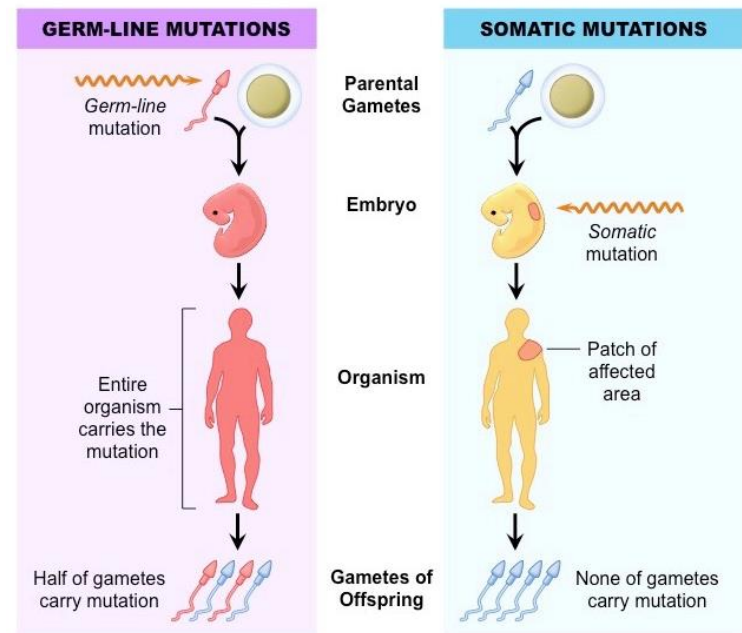
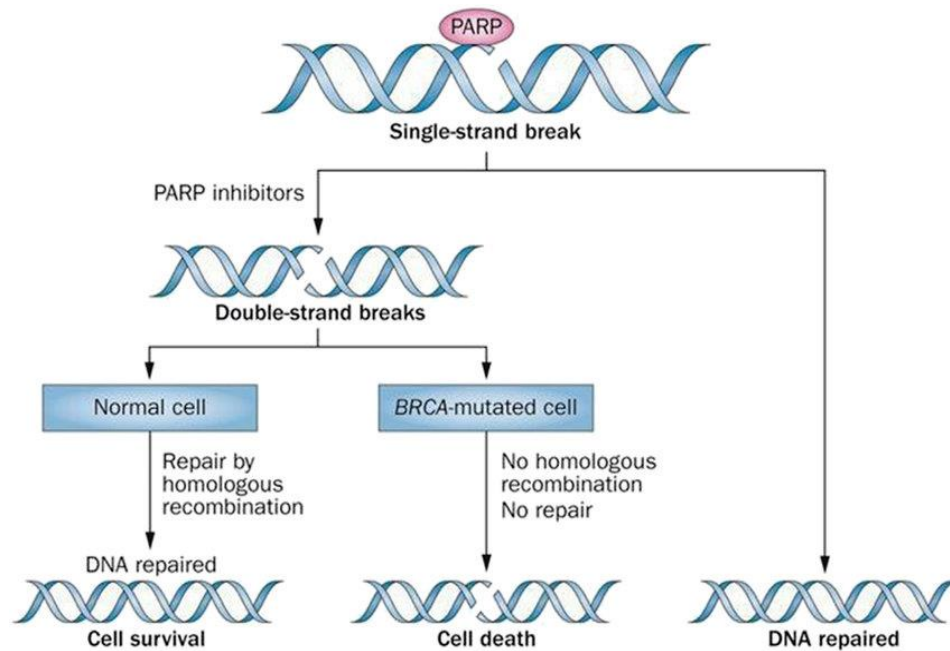
■ BRIP1

■ BARD1

■ MSH6



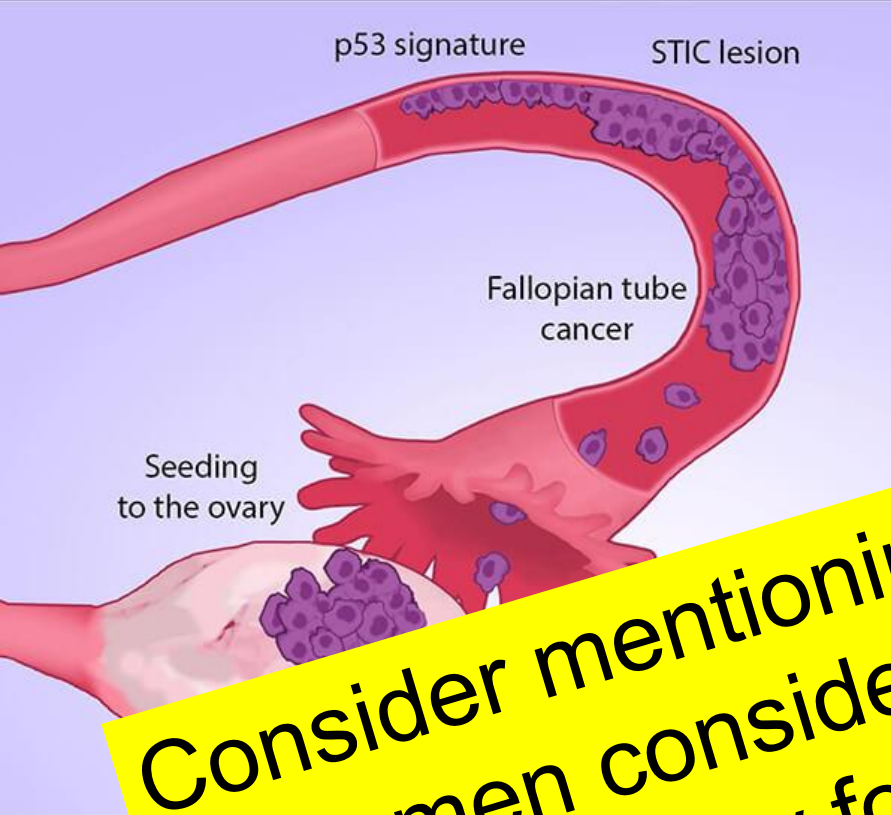
Mechanism of DNA repair: the role of PARPi in homologous recombination (HR)



Initial PARPi studies pointed to improved PFS

Study	Arms	BRCA mutant	HRD + (BRCAwt)	HRD neg	
VELIA Coleman N=1,140	Veliparib Placebo	34.7 mo** 22 mo (12 mo)	22.9 mo 19.8 mo (3 mo)	15.0 mo 11.5 mo (4.5 mo)	HR cutoff ≥33
PRIMA Gonzalez-Martin N=733	Niraparib Placebo	22.1 mo** 10.9 mo (11 mo)	19.6 mo** 8.2 mo (7.5 mo)	8.1 mo** 5.4 mo (2.7 mo)	HR cutoff ≥42
PAOLA-1 Ray-Coquard N=806	Olaparib +BEV BEV	37.2 mo** 21.7 (15.5 mo)	28.1 mo** 16.6 mo (11.5 mo)	16.9 mo 16.0 mo (no diff)	HR cutoff ≥42
SOLO-1 Moore	Olaparib Placebo	>40 mo 13.8 mo (36 mo)			





Salpingo-Centric Model

Consider mentioning salpingectomy to women considering sterilization or having surgery for other reasons

	STROMAL TUMORS	GERM CELL	SEX CORD-STROMA	METASTASIS TO OVARIES
Proportion of malignant ovarian tumors	65%-70%	15%-20%	5%-10%	5%
Age group affected	20+ years	0-25+ years	All ages	Variable
Types	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Serosus tumor • Mucinous tumor • Endometrioid tumor • Clear cell tumor • Brenner tumor • Cystadenofibroma 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teratoma • Dysgerminoma • Endodermal sinus tumor • Chonocarcinoma 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fibroma • Granulosa-theca cell tumor • Sertoli-Leydig cell tumor 	

Case 3

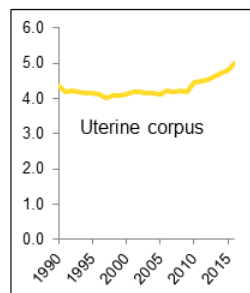
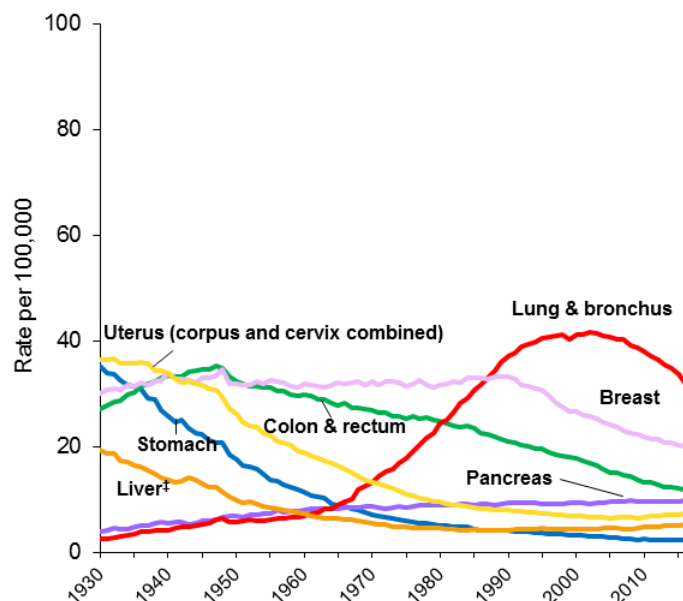
A 57 yo African American woman presents with new complaint of one episode of PMP bleeding. She is otherwise healthy. She has an u/s which reveals fibroids and an endometrial strip of 4.2 mm. Next steps might include?

- ✓ A. Send her to a gynecologist
- B. Reassure her that this can be normal with fibroids
- C. Obtain an MRI
- D. Repeat the u/s in 3 months



Key points on Endometrial cancer

Trends in Cancer Death Rates* Among Females, US, 1930-2016

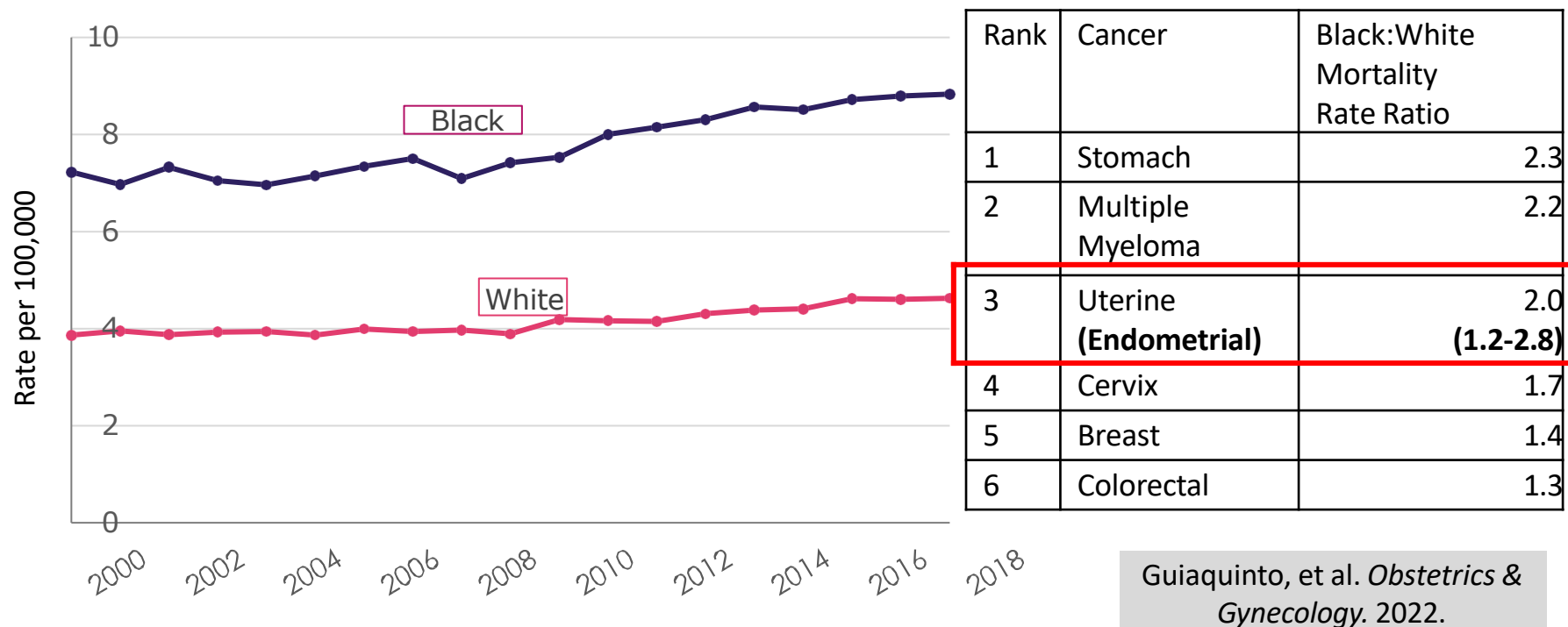


*Age-adjusted to the 2000 US standard population. †Uterus includes uterine corpus and uterine cervix combined. ‡Incl and other biliary.
NOTE: Due to International Classification of Diseases coding changes, numerator information for colorectal, liver, lung, time.
Source: National Center for Health Statistics, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2018.

- Endometrial cancer is one of the only cancers where incidence is increasing
- Early intervention equals improved survival
- Racial differences are now apparent and outcomes poorer

US Uterine Cancer Statistics by Race/Ethnicity: Mortality

For Black women, uterine cancer mortality has >> ovarian cancer mortality since **2005**.



Data from: SEER cancer statistics review 1975-2018, Available at: seer.cancer.gov

Giaquinto et al, *CA: A Cancer Journal for Clinicians*, 2022
Clarke et al, *JAMA Oncology*, 2022



JAMA Oncology | **Original Investigation**

Estimated Performance of Transvaginal Ultrasonography for Evaluation of Postmenopausal Bleeding in a Simulated Cohort of Black and White Women in the US

Kemi M. Doll, MD, MS; Sarah S. Romano, MPH; Erica E. Marsh, MD; Whitney R. Robinson, PhD

Key Points

Question Do current guidelines that direct the use of transvaginal ultrasonography as a gateway to endometrial biopsy among women with postmenopausal bleeding perform differently by patient race?

Findings In this study of a simulated cohort of 367 073 Black and White women with postmenopausal bleeding, the use of 4-mm transvaginal ultrasonography endometrial thickness measurements to prompt biopsy resulted in a sensitivity of 47.5% among Black women compared with 87.9% among White women, with a negative predictive value of 92% among Black women vs 98% among White women.

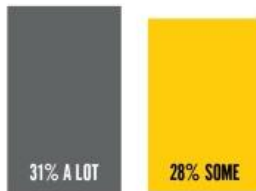
Meaning The findings of this study suggest that adherence to current clinical guidelines results in systematic underdiagnosis in Black women with endometrial cancer owing to measurement thresholds that fail to account for uterine fibroids and nonendometrioid histologic type.



The cost of cancer: Financial toxicity in our patients

87% of survivors said their health care provider had **NOT** discussed the costs of cancer care

59%
FACED
FINANCIAL
PROBLEMS



67%
DID NOT GET
HELP WITH
FINANCIAL
PROBLEMS



Common reasons for not getting help:

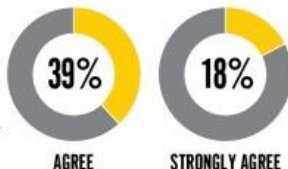
- 34%** UNSURE WHERE TO GO OR WHO TO SEE
- 25%** NOT KNOWING HELP WAS AVAILABLE
- 21%** DOCTOR NOT MAKING A REFERRAL FOR HELP
- 21%** NOT WANTING TO BOTHER ANYONE

Common types of financial problems:

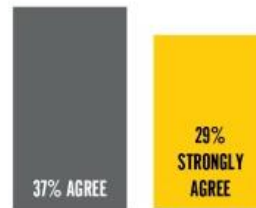
- 64%** MADE FINANCIAL SACRIFICES
- 59%** USED RETIREMENT OR OTHER SAVINGS
- 39%** COULD NOT COVER COSTS OF CARE
- 32%** BORROWED MONEY OR WENT INTO DEBT

Worry and Distress Due to Financial Issues

57%
FELT
FINANCIALLY
STRESSED



66%
WORRIED
ABOUT
FUTURE
FINANCIAL
PROBLEMS



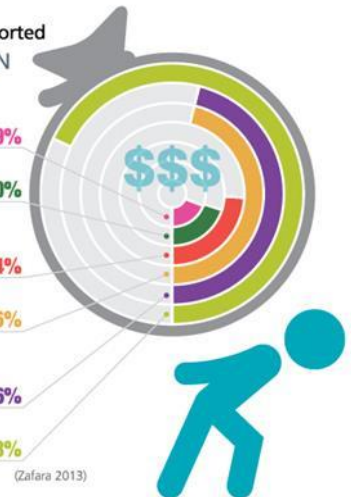
2015 Livestrong study



In one study, **42%** of participants reported a **SIGNIFICANT FINANCIAL BURDEN**

As a result:

- partially filled a prescription **19%**
- took less than the prescribed amount of medication **20%**
- avoided filling prescriptions **24%**
- used their savings to help cover out-of-pocket expenses **46%**
- reduced spending on food & clothing **46%**
- cut back on leisure activities **68%**



(Zafara 2013)



INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF GYNECOLOGICAL CANCER

Evaluating Meaningful Levels of Financial Toxicity in Gynecologic Cancers

Katharine M. Esselen, Annika Gompers, Michele R. Hacker, Sara Bouberhan, Meghan Shea, Sarah S. Summerlin, Lindsay R. Rucker, Warner K. Huh, Maria Pisu, Margaret I. Liang



Comprehensive Score for Financial Toxicity (COST) measures economic burden among patients with cancer¹

0 - 44 scale, lower scores indicate worse financial toxicity



What level of financial toxicity correlates with meaningful cost-coping behaviors?



Analyzed survey data of patients with gynecologic cancer from Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center (MA) and the University of Alabama at Birmingham (AL)

Financial toxicity (FT) affects nearly half of patients with gynecologic cancer and is associated with cost-coping strategies

No/Mild FT
!
COST > 25

53%

Moderate FT
!!
COST 14-25

32%

Severe FT
!!!
COST < 14

15%

Economic cost-coping strategies
(changing spending habits,
borrowing money)

Behavioral
cost-coping
strategies
(medication
non-
compliance)



@IJGOnline

1. de Souza JA, Yap BJ, Hlubocky FJ, et al. The development of a financial toxicity patient-reported outcome in cancer: The COST measure. *Cancer* 2014;120(20):3245-53.

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Risk Factors for Financial Toxicity

- Younger age
- Non-partnered marital status
- Black and Hispanic race and ethnicity
- Education level
- Employment/Income level
- Insurance type
- Surgery
- More imaging studies
- More outpatient visits



Additional References



ASCCP.org

ACOG:

- Updated Guidelines for Management of Cervical Cancer Screening Abnormalities. Practice Advisory October 2020
- ACOG Committee Opinion, Number 809. Obstetrics and Gynecology. Vol. 136, No. 2, August 2020

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CDC.gov