

HUMAN PAPILOMAVIRUS



The data

Cervical cancer is **ONE OF THE LEADING CAUSES OF DEATH IN WOMEN**, and more than half of all cancers are caused by cervical cancer. **95%** is caused by the human papillomavirus (HPV).



The disease

- > HPV is one of the most common infections of the **REPRODUCTIVE TRACT**. It causes a variety of diseases in both **MEN AND WOMEN**, such as cervical cancer, cancers of the penis and anus, mouth and oropharynx (throat), and anogenital warts.
- > HPV vaccination, screening tests and treatment of precancerous lesions are **ESSENTIAL** to prevent cervical cancer.



Transmission

- > Transmission usually occurs during **SEXUAL RELATIONSHIPS OR SKIN-TO-SKIN CONTACT** with the person who has the virus.
- > It can be transmitted even with the use of condoms and in monogamous relationships.

It can also be transmitted:

- > by means of infected objects or materials.
- > by direct contact with wounds and abrasions
- > in rare cases, from mother to child during childbirth.



Vaccines

- > HPV vaccine is highly effective in **PREVENTING 70%** of cervical cancers, as well as penile and anal, mouth and oropharyngeal (throat) cancers.
- > High coverage rates in girls (>90%) **REDUCE THE RISK** of infection in boys.
- > **44 countries and territories** in the Region vaccinate against HPV.



Calendar

2 doses of vaccine, six months apart:

- > Girls aged 9-14 years, before they become sexually active.
- > Some countries include boys.
- > **44 countries and territories** in the Region are vaccinated against HPV.

In addition, if vaccination is extended to other groups it can be administered:

- > One or two doses for adolescents and females 15-20 years of age
- > Two doses, six months apart, for women 21 years of age and older.

New studies have shown that one dose may offer comparable protection.