

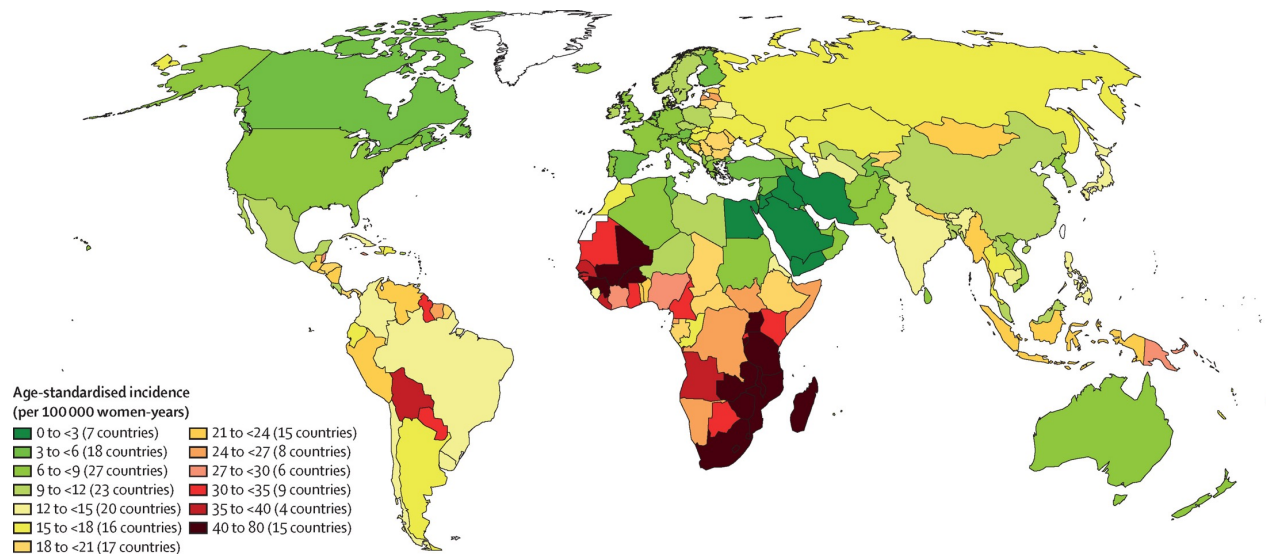
# Control and prevention of cervical cancer among women living with HIV

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# Invasive Cervical Cancer incidence



- 604,127 cases in 2020
- >80% in low income/developing countries

## Cervical cancer screening coverage (2019) in women aged 30-49 years :

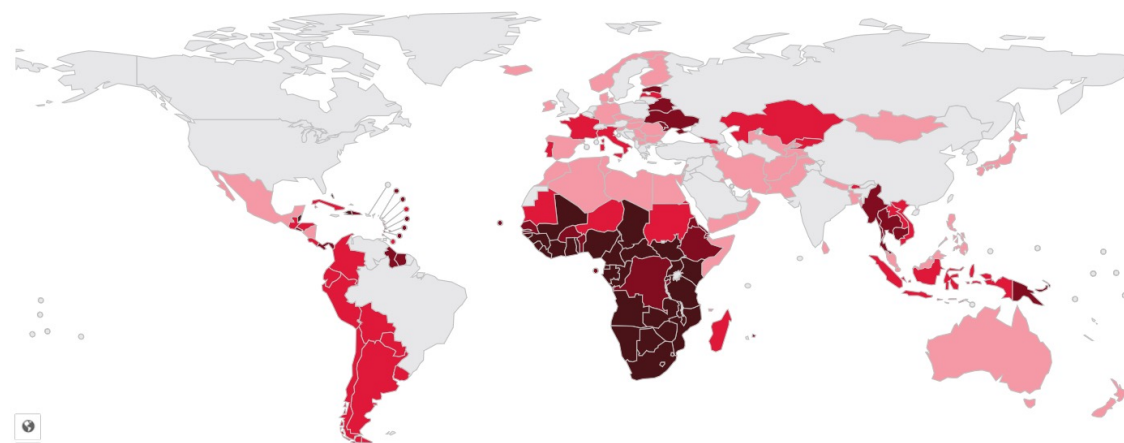
- **88%** in HIC vs. **13%** in MIC vs. **15%** in LIC (1)

## HPV vaccination coverage (2020):

- **88%** HIC vs. **40%** LMIC (2)

WLHIV **6x** ↑ cervical cancer (3)

# HIV prevalence

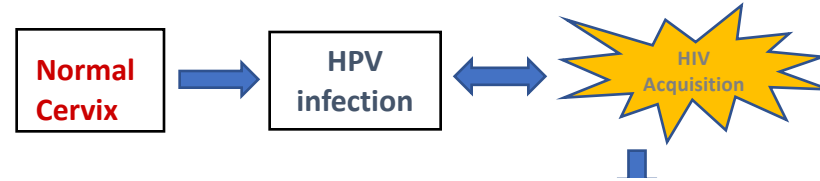


**15.6 million** WLHIV globally  
**12.5 million (80%)** WLHIV in SSA

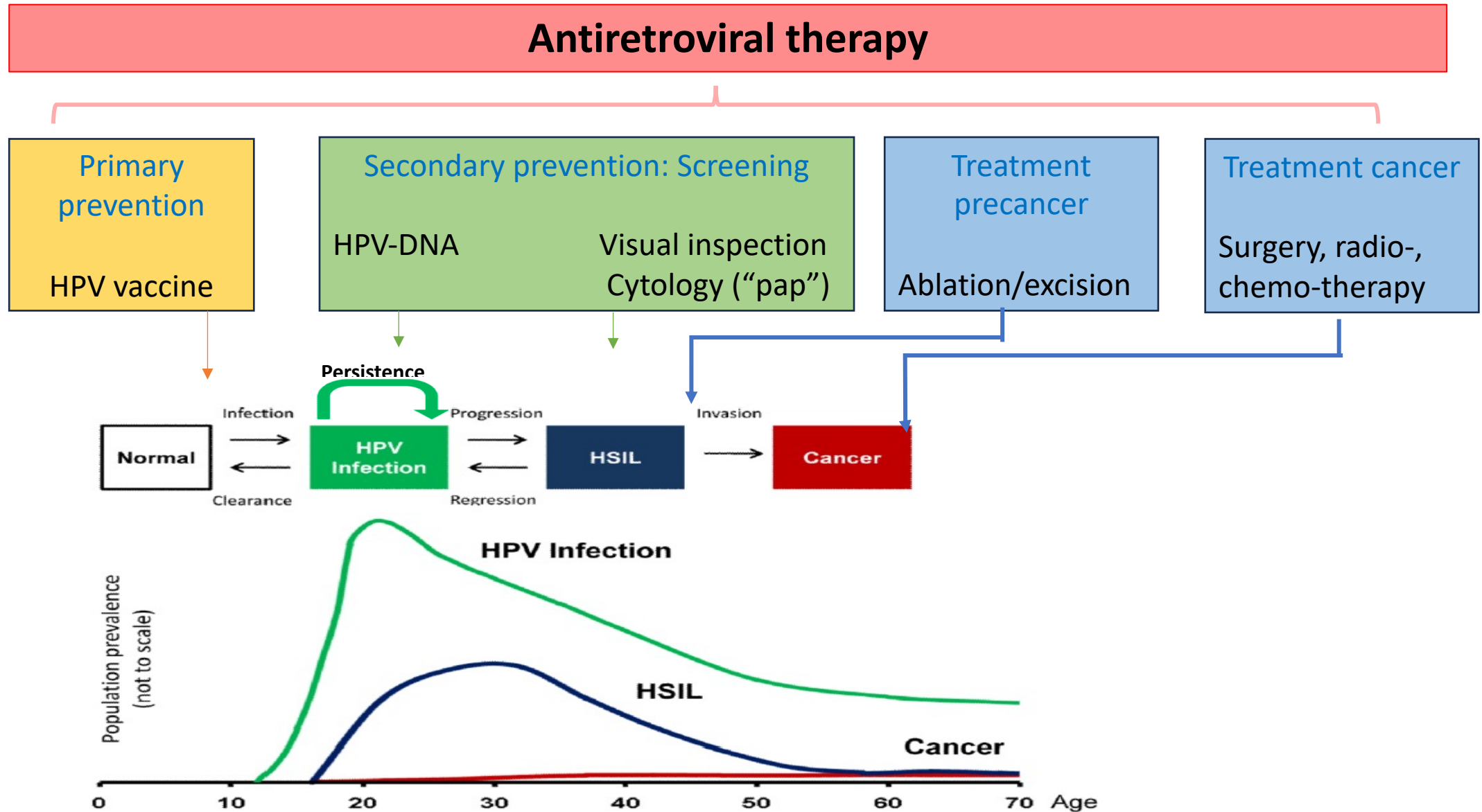
# HPV, HIV and Cervical Cancer

HPV is a risk factor for **HIV acquisition (x2)** <sup>(1)</sup>

HIV  $\uparrow$  **HPV incidence (x2)** and  $\downarrow$  HPV clearance <sup>(1)</sup>



# TOOLS TO PREVENT CERVICAL CANCER



# Control and prevention of HPV related disease among WLHIV

# Association of antiretroviral therapy (ART) and HPV & ICC

## For HR-HPV:

- Women on ART have ↓ 17% risk of HR-HPV prevalence

## For SIL/CIN:

- Incidence: ↓ 41%
- Progression: ↓ 36%
- Regression: ↑ x2

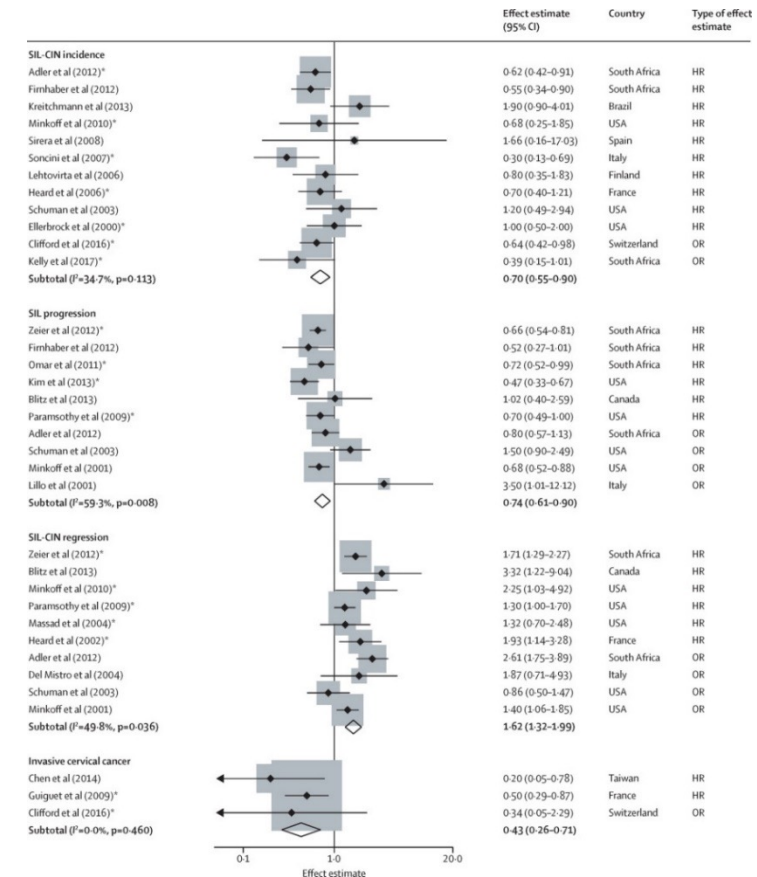
## For ICC:

- Incidence: ↓ 60%

## • RISK is LOWER if:

- Initiated early (higher nadir CD4)
- Prolonged ART duration, good adherence & effective treatment (sustained viral suppression and increasing CD4)

52 studies worldwide  
38,515 WLHIV



With universal ART (95-95-95), will risk of CIN2/3 and ICC among WLHIV = risk among HIV negative women?

# Diagnostic accuracy of screening for CIN2+ detection - WLHIV

Screening	N studies	% positive	Sensitivity (95%CI)	Specificity (95%CI)
Visual Inspection (VIA)	14	6 – 56%	<b>44-87%</b>	<b>47-97%</b>
Cervical cytology ( $\geq$ ASCUS)	19	41%	<b>58-100%</b>	<b>9-94%</b>
HPV-DNA (14 HR types)	28	45%	<b>92% (88-94)</b>	<b>62% (58-66)</b>

- HPV based tests had **lower specificity in WLHIV vs. HIV negative women** (55% vs. 83%; Relative Specificity=0.67, 95%CI: 0.62-0.72).
- **Specificity** of HPV DNA test **higher** in:
  - older vs. younger women
  - Women with higher CD4+
  - Long duration ART=> corresponding with ↓ HR-HPV

# Summary Recommendations

WHO suggests using the following strategy for cervical cancer prevention

## For the general population of women

Screen and Treat **OR** Screen, Triage and Treat

- HPV DNA as primary screening test
- Starting at age 30
- Every 5 to 10 years screening interval

## For women living with HIV

Screen, Triage and Treat

- HPV DNA as primary screening test
- Starting at age 25
- Every 3 to 5 years screening interval

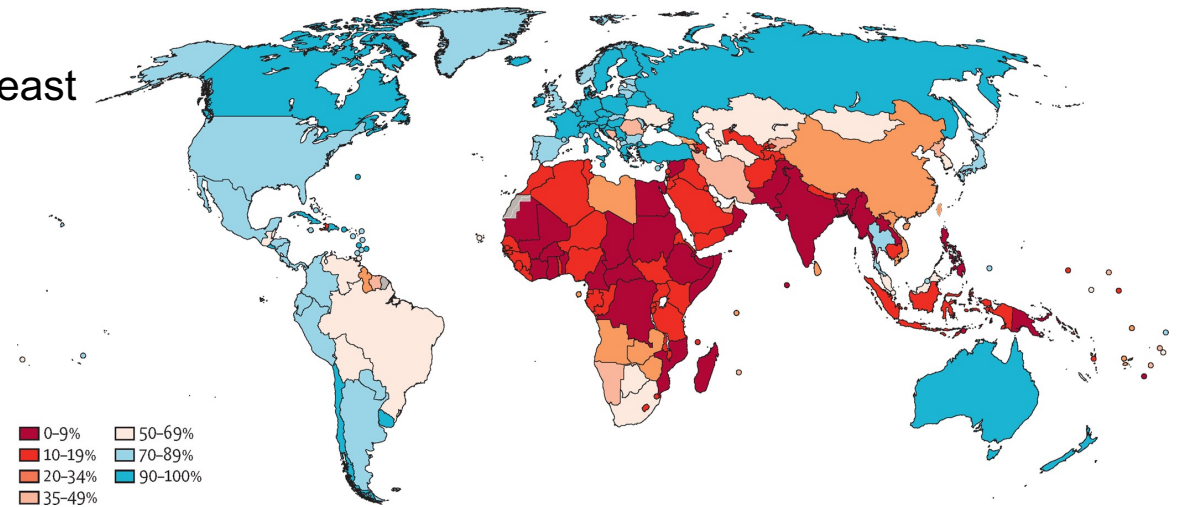
\* Where HPV DNA testing is not yet operational, use a regular screening interval of every 3 years when using VIA or cytology as the primary screening test among WLHIV

When providing HPV DNA testing, WHO suggests using either provider or self-collected samples



# Screening access/coverage

- Estimated cervical cancer screening coverage in 2019, women aged 30-49 years in **127 countries** worldwide
- **38%** of women aged 30-49 years have been screened at least once in their lifetime;
- **88%** in high-income settings
- **15%** in low-income countries



**HPV DNA test or cytology** most common in high-income settings, **VIA** most used in Sub-Saharan Africa

Uncertain for WLHIV, but reported that WLHIV 2x ↑ ever having had screening event

# Integration of cervical cancer screening in HIV services

**WHO think tank meeting, May 2023**, document successes, challenges and lessons learned for cervical cancer screening and treatment for **WLHIV**

## 1. Harnessing existing infrastructure

- Existing human resources, established referral networks, integration lab testing multi-disease platforms (HPV, CD4+, HIV VL monitoring, TB) and reporting platforms (LMIS)
- Alignment of screening and treatment visits with the ART-visit schedule

## 2. Innovations in ART delivery

- **Differentiated service delivery (DSD)**, community-based models of care provide opportunity to offer **HPV self-collection** to women in their homes.
- Role of **patient navigators** in linking screen positive women to triage and treatment

## 3. Established civil society experience

- **Community-based and civil society organizations** and patient navigators for demand generation, rolling-out self-sampling, linkage to care and health education
- Financing and out of pocket payments (esp for triage and treatment)

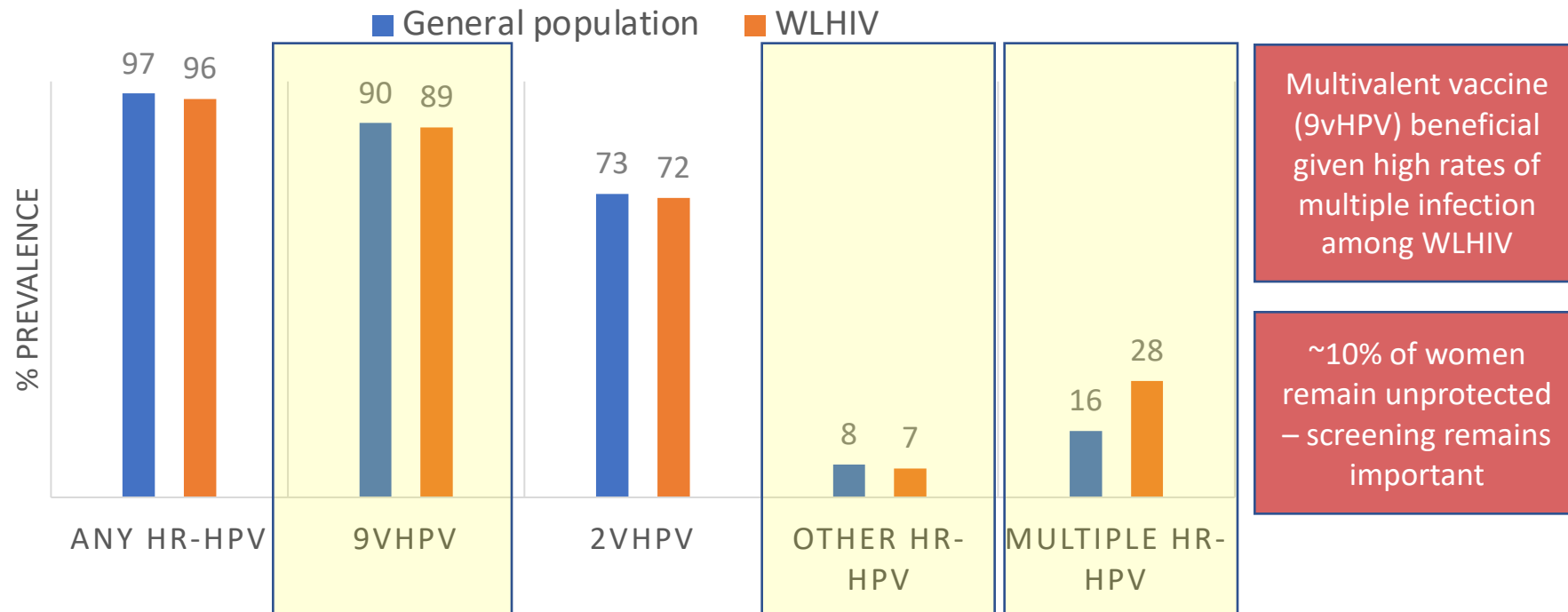
## 4. Monitoring and evaluation

- Comprehensive tracking and data systems for HIV => integrate data on cervical cancer screening and treatment
- Interoperability of HIV and cancer monitoring systems important

# Cervical precancer recurrence post-treatment

- **3x** ↑ CIN2+ *recurrence* post-treatment in WLHIV (**22%**) vs. HIV negative women (**9%**)<sup>1</sup>
- **1.7x** ↑ CIN2+ *recurrence* **cryotherapy** (22%) vs. **LEEP** (13%) up to 2 years<sup>1,2</sup>
- **ART 2x** ↓ CIN2+ *recurrence* if suppressed viral load and with early initiation<sup>3</sup>
- Frequent follow-up of women following treatment for cervical precancer
- Diagnostic accuracy of test strategies for detection of CIN2/3 up to 6 months post treatment in WLHIV => *limited data*

# HPV vaccination among women living with HIV



HPV prevalence among women with invasive cervical cancer

# HPV vaccination among PLHIV

- First studies in adult women living with HIV => Vaccine is immunogenic and safe
- Post-vaccination seroconversion rate is high & similar to women without HIV : 92-100% for 3 licenced vaccines<sup>1,2, 3</sup>
- Antibody titres post-vaccination similar among WLHIV and HIV-women at 12-months post-vaccination<sup>1,2</sup>
  - higher among PLHIV taking ART, who had higher CD4 cell counts or who had undetectable plasma HIV viral loads.
- Declines over time but above seropositivity cut-off, levels required for clinical protection currently unknown
- No efficacy data against infection or disease endpoints yet
- No published data on immunogenicity or effectiveness of 1- or 2-dose schedules among PLHIV

# New WHO recommendations on HPV vaccine schedules can optimize vaccine coverage

**Primary target** : girls 9 to 14 years of age

2-dose schedule for all ages starting from 9 years old

Option: 1-dose schedule for 9 to 20-year-olds

Two doses with a 6-month interval for **women older than 21 years**

*Prioritize the vaccination of Immunocompromised/HIV+ populations – also at ages beyond primary target – with at least 2 doses, ideally 3*



# HOPE (HPV One and two dose Population Effectiveness) Study

- Repeated cross sectional surveys among young women aged 17–18 years in South Africa: 2019, 2021, 2023 to evaluate Community-level impacts of both the one-dose and two-dose schedules compared with no vaccination
- National South African HPV vaccination programme, which has targeted grade 4 girls aged at least 9 years in public schools with two doses of vaccine since 2014
- Aims to detect of changes over time in human papillomavirus (HPV) prevalence before and after HPV vaccination programme
- Does HIV infection status affects the protective effectiveness of HPV vaccines
- HPV16/18 prevalence pre vs. post-vaccine: 33% vs. 21%, adjusted prevalence ratio=0.63, 95%CI: 0.41-0.95
- Duration of antibody response to understand need for booster ?

# Summary

- WLHIV at higher risk of HR-HPV infection, cervical precancer and cancer compared to women without HIV
- => Beneficial impact of ART
- HIV prevention, testing, early initiation ART reduces risk of HR-HPV persistence, cervical precancer and cancer
- Regular screening important
  - novel technology to give even better diagnostic tools
  - opportunities for single visit (coincide with HIV visit), strong linkage to care
- PLHIV elicit robust immune response following HPV vaccination; more data needed on efficacy
- PLHIV have high prevalence of vaccine types but probability of being infected by ALL types low
- Combined with screening!
- More evidence on immune response and efficacy of reduced dose schedules in immunocompromised individuals and HIV-infected persons