



ABSTRACT BOOK

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RAPID DECLINE IN WARTS AFTER NATIONAL QUADRIVALENT HPV VACCINE PROGRAM

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Background: Australia provided free quadrivalent human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine to 12-18 year old girls in a school-based program from April 2007, and to women 26 years through general practices from July 2007.

Objective: To determine if the Australian HPV vaccination program has had a population impact on presentations of genital warts.

Methods: The proportion of new clients with genital warts at Melbourne Sexual Health Centre (MSHC) from January 2004 to December 2008.

Results: 36,055 new clients attended MSHC between 2004-2008 and genital warts were diagnosed in 3,826 (10.6%; 95% confidence intervals(CI): 10.3-10.9). Clinical prevalence ratios (RR), and 95% CIs were calculated for the proportion of new clients with genital warts for 2004-2007 combined compared to 2008. The proportion of new clients with genital warts was significantly lower in 2008 than 2004-7 for men (RR=0.82 (95% CI, 0.75-0.90)) and women (RR=0.62 (95% CI, 0.54-0.72)). Analysis of subgroups found only women <28 years (RR=0.52 (95% CI, 0.44-0.63)) and heterosexual men (RR=0.83 (95% CI, 0.74-0.92)) but not homosexual men (RR= 0.93 (95% CI, 0.73-1.17) or women ≥28 years(RR=0.91 (95% CI 0.70-1.17)) not had a significant fall in genital warts in 2008 compared to 2004-7. From January to December 2008 there was a significant decline in the monthly presentations for warts among women <28 years (p for trend=0.03).

Conclusions: Our data suggest a rapid and marked reduction in the incidence of genital warts among vaccinated women may be achievable through an HPV vaccination program targeting women, and supports some benefit being conferred to men. A reduction in genital wart diagnoses in heterosexual but not homosexual men is consistent with reduced heterosexual transmission of HPV as a result of female vaccination.