COSTA RICA
CERVICAL CANCER PROFILE

Morbidity and Mortality

Crude cervical cancer incidence per 100 000 women (2020): 14.4
Age-standardized cervical cancer incidence per 100 000 women (2020): 11.7
Cumulative risk of cervical cancer, ages 0-74 (2020): 1.1%
Cervical cancer deaths (2019): 160
Cervical cancer mortality-to-incidence ratio (2020): 0.52
Population-based cancer registry exists (2021): Yes

Primary Prevention

HPV vaccination programme coverage among girls (2020)

Programme coverage:

- first dose
- final dose

Coverage by age 15:

- 0%
- 20%
- 40%
- 60%
- 80%
- 100%

% of target population

7 in 10 girls in the primary target cohort in 2020 have received their final HPV vaccination dose

HPV vaccination programme (2020):

- HPV included in national vaccination programme: Yes
- Scale of vaccination programme: National
- Year of introduction: 2019
- Primary target cohort: 10 years

Related risk factors:

- Tobacco use prevalence, women aged 15+ years (2020): 5%
- Condom use at last high-risk sex (-): ND
- HIV incidence per 1000, women aged 15+ years (2020): 0.37

Secondary Prevention

National screening programme for cervical cancer exists (2021): Yes
Primary screening test used (2021): HPV test
Target age range of programme (2021): 30-65 years
Programme/guidelines exist to strengthen early detection of first symptoms at primary health care level (2021): Yes
Clearly defined referral system exists from primary care to secondary and tertiary care (2021): Yes

Treatment and Supportive Care

National guidelines on cervical cancer management exist (2021): Yes

Cancer diagnosis and treatment services generally available (2021):

- Cancer centre or cancer department at tertiary level: Yes
- Pathology services (laboratories): Yes
- Cancer surgery: Yes
- Chemotherapy: Yes
- Radiotherapy: Yes

Palliative care for patients with NCDs in the public health system generally available (2021):

- In primary health care facilities: No
- In community or home-based care: Yes

WHO Cervical Cancer Elimination Strategy Targets for 2030

- 90% of girls fully vaccinated with the HPV vaccine by the age of 15
- 70% of women are screened with a high-performance test by 35 years of age and again by 45 years of age
- 90% of women identified with cervical disease receive treatment

ND = data not available

* Programme coverage: % of national target population (among 9-14-year-old girls)
† Coverage by age 15: % of population turning 15 that have been vaccinated against HPV at any time between ages 9 to 14

See Explanatory Notes for indicator descriptions.