

# HPV VACCINATION IN SCHOOLS

## Pilot project in French Guyana



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# CALL FOR PROJECT

- Call for project launched by the French General Direction of Health (DGS)

*Expérimentation for the development of vaccination against the infections caused by human papillomavirus (HPV)*

- Main aim : increase the HPV immunization coverage



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# CALL FOR PROJECT

- 2 regions selected : French Guyana and Grand Est
- 2 main actions :
  - Training of healthcare professionals allowed to vaccinate
  - Organization and achievement of immunization campaign inside middle-school

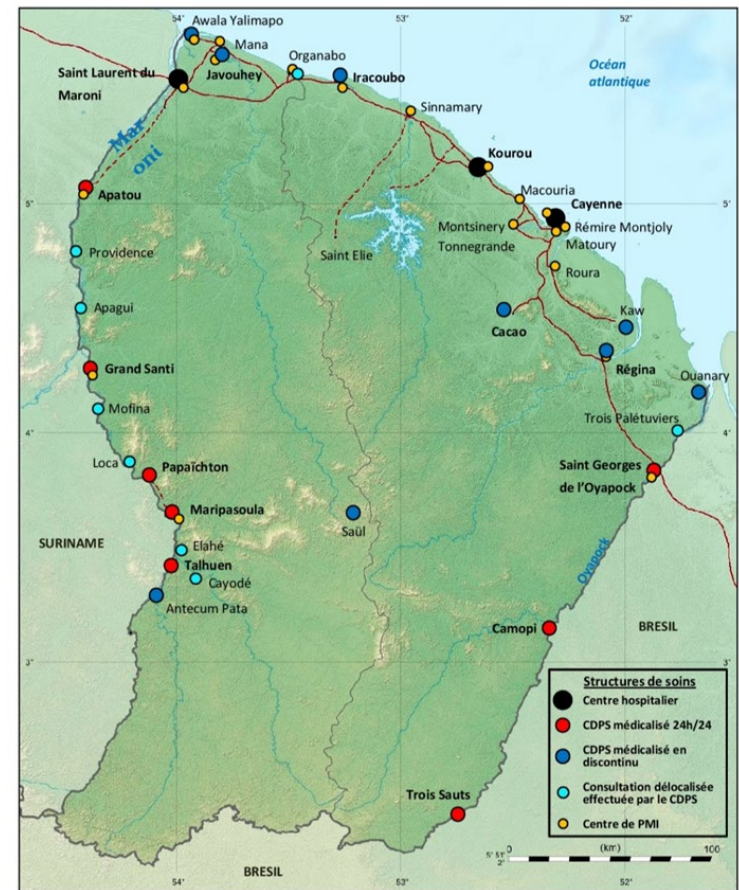
# French Guyana : unusual territory

- Located in South America
- With 90% of the area covered with forest
- All the infrastructure based on the narrow coastline
- With 20% of the population living along the two border rivers



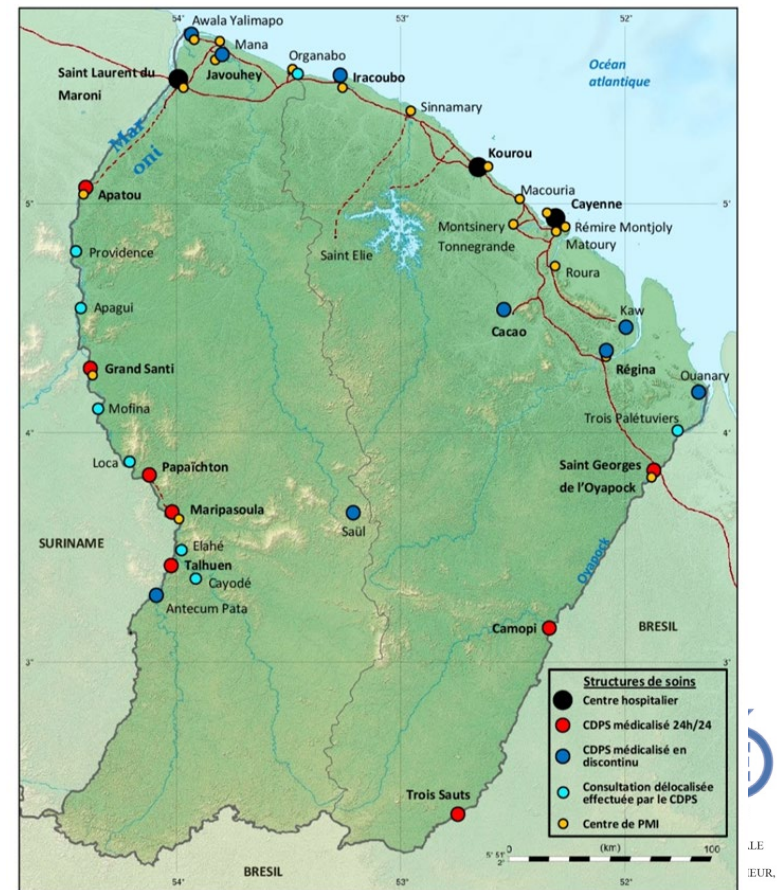
# French Guyana : unusual territory

- A very young population
- With multicultural and multilingual factures
- Including many indigenous communities
- Frequently using traditional medicine



# HEALTH SITUATION IN GUYANA

- Marked by a lack of healthcare professionals
- Mainly based on the littoral
- Health Center in isolated areas



# HPV Epidemiology in French Guyana

- Cervical Cancer is second most common of female cancer
- High prevalence rates of HPV infection



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# HPV Infection risk factor

- Early sexual activity
- Sexual relations with multiple partners
- HAS Recommendations : cervical cancer screening must begin at 20 years old
- But very limited access to cervical smears testing



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# HPV Infection risk factor

- Low HPV immunization coverage
- Low access to immunization
- Many people without social insurance



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# PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

- Located in isolated areas

For:

- health-care professional working in the local health structures
- Parents
- Pupils



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# PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

- Training of health mediators
- meeting with the parents to inform them about the project
- Health professionals training
- Information to pupils
- First vaccination campaign



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# PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION: parents information

- Meeting parents in their village
- pirogue as the only means of transportation
- Going to the different villages as a 4-day journey



# PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION: parents information

- Information about cervical cancer and immunization
- Explanation about parental consent
- Breaking down the language barrier through a mediator translation



# PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION: students information

- Information to STI and method of prevention
- Information to cervical cancer and immunization
- Answering questions



# PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION : professionnall training

- Drafting of a training programme for health professionals : doctors, midwives, nurses
- Accreditation by the National Agency for the continuing professional development
- Lasting 4h



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# PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION : professionnall training

- Main learning goals:
- Understanding the interest of HPV vaccination
- What to do with vaccine hesitancy
- Understanding vaccines effectiveness and their limitations
- indications, contraindications and side effects



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# PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION : professionnals' formation

- Participation of all the health professionals
- Assessment of the effects of training : 100% good or excellent



# PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION : immunization campaign

- Participation of school health professionals from coastline (doctors and nurses)
- Immunization sessions planned over 2 days in the school infirmary
- Getting parental consent form signed



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# PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION :

## immunization campaign

- 86 girls vaccinated on 246 registred on the first day
  
- Project developed before authorization by HAS on boys immunization



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# PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION : immunization campaign

- organizational difficulties
- Role of social networks
- Role of churches



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# PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION : immunization campaign

- Impact of the health crisis(second planned immunization dose in june 2020)
  
- High mistrust about vaccines and health professionals (recent phenomena)



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# PERSPECTIVES

- Continuance of the project planned for the first quarter of 2022
- Gradual deployment
- Long-term objective is to be able to realize HPV immunization in all the middle-schools



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# MERCI DE VOTRE ATTENTION



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