

# Impact of Covid-19 on HPV Testing

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## Start of Block: Default Question Block

The COVID-19 pandemic has brought about multiple complex challenges in 2020 including the provision of laboratory services required to support cervical cancer screening programmes. The HPV Prevention and Control Board ([www.hpvboard.org](http://www.hpvboard.org)) decided to create a short survey, led by Mario Poljak and Kate Cuschieri, to collect contemporary data on the experience of laboratories on how COVID-19 has affected the ability to deliver “routine” services required to support cervical cancer screening. The survey is intended for heads of laboratories and/or laboratory managers; in this way, we would hope to capture a single response per laboratory. It should take no more than 5 minutes to complete. We hope the survey will help to both quantify the impact and identify common challenges across laboratories, both existing and anticipated. We are thankful for your participation.

Questions can be addressed to: [Hpvboard.secretariat@uantwerpen.be](mailto:Hpvboard.secretariat@uantwerpen.be)

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Q1 What is official name of your laboratory? (The name will be kept confidential)

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Q2 Describe the nature of your laboratory? (choose multiple options if applicable)

HPV Reference Lab (1)

General Molecular Diagnostic Lab (2)

Other (3) \_\_\_\_\_

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Q3 The city and country of lab location?

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Q4 HPV test is used in my country as (choose as many as applicable)

- As a primary test in cervical cancer screening program (1)
  - In management and triage of women with borderline cytological findings (2)
  - In post-treatment follow-up/test of a cure (3)
  - In resolution of diagnostic uncertainties (4)
  - I don't know (5)
- 

Q5 Which type of test does your lab conducts to support cervical cancer screening?

- HPV testing (1)
- Cytology (2)
- HPV testing and Cytology (4)
- Others (3) \_\_\_\_\_

*Skip To: Q17 If Which type of test does your lab conducts to support cervical cancer screening? = Cytology*

*Skip To: End of Survey If Which type of test does your lab conducts to support cervical cancer screening? = Others*

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Q6 Have you faced the supply shortage for HPV testing? Tick the consumables for which you have faced shortage - Choose as many as applicable

- Collection and Transport Media (1)  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Plasticware - pipette tips, sample tubes, storage boxes etc (2)  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Extraction reagents (3)  
\_\_\_\_\_
- PCR reagents (4) \_\_\_\_\_
- Swabs (5) \_\_\_\_\_
- Molecular grade fluids (Ethanol) - General disinfectants (8)  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Waste bins and waste collection services (9)  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Personal protective equipments (6)  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Bench/lab space due to reprioritisation of services (7)  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Others (10) \_\_\_\_\_

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Q7 Did your experience delay in ordering new equipment e.g. diagnostic instruments/freezers?

- Yes ( if yes please list which equipment) (1)  
\_\_\_\_\_
- No (2) \_\_\_\_\_

Q8 Did you experience a shortage of personnel due to the pandemic?

- Yes (1)
- No (2)
- Others (3) \_\_\_\_\_

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*Display This Question:*

*If Did you experience a shortage of personnel due to the pandemic? = Yes*

Q9 If yes can you describe what was responsible for this?

- Not all staff was allowed to work at the same time (staff shielding) (1)
- Staff co-opted to support with Covid-19 testing (2)
- Self isolation (3)
- Other reasons (4) \_\_\_\_\_

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Q10 Did you have to pay a higher price during the pandemic to purchase HPV-related lab specific products/equipments etc in comparison to pre-Covid-19 times?

- Yes (1) \_\_\_\_\_
- No (2) \_\_\_\_\_
- Additional comments (3) \_\_\_\_\_

Q11 Did you have to pay a higher price during the pandemic to purchase non-HPV specific lab products/equipment etc in comparison to pre-pandemic time?

- Yes (1)
  - No (2)
  - Additional comments (3) \_\_\_\_\_
- 

Q12 Was the time to receive HPV test results significantly prolonged during the pandemic time as compared to pre-pandemic times?

- Yes, more than a day (1)
  - Yes, more than a week (2)
  - Yes, more than a month (3)
  - No (4)
  - Other (5) \_\_\_\_\_
- 

*Display This Question:*

*If Was the time to receive HPV test results significantly prolonged during the pandemic time as comp... = Yes, more than a day*

*And Was the time to receive HPV test results significantly prolonged during the pandemic time as comp... = Yes, more than a week*

*And Was the time to receive HPV test results significantly prolonged during the pandemic time as comp... = Yes, more than a month*

Q13 What were the reasons for delay in HPV test results?

- Shortage of HPV tests and consumables (1)
  - Due to personnel shift to Covid-19 testing (3)
  - Other reasons (2) \_\_\_\_\_
-

Q14 Did the routine cervical cancer screening programme pause due to Covid-19 pandemic in your country?

- Yes, less than three months (1)
- Yes, more than three months (2)
- Yes, more than six months (3)
- No (4)
- Other (5) \_\_\_\_\_

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*Display This Question:*

*If Did the routine cervical cancer screening programme pause due to Covid-19 pandemic in your country? = Yes, less than three months*

*And Did the routine cervical cancer screening programme pause due to Covid-19 pandemic in your country? = Yes, more than three months*

*And Did the routine cervical cancer screening programme pause due to Covid-19 pandemic in your country? = Yes, more than six months*

Q15 How did the routine cervical cancer programme organisation change as a consequence of Covid-19?

\_\_\_\_\_

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Q16 Do you see long term impact of Covid-19 testing on HPV testing?

- Yes, but only temporary  $\leq$  6mo (1)  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Yes, for next 12mo or longer (2)  
\_\_\_\_\_
- No (3) \_\_\_\_\_

Display This Question:

If Which type of test does your lab conducts to support cervical cancer screening? = Cytology

Q17

Do you think that the pandemic will delay the introduction of HPV as primary test for cervical cancer screening in your country?

- Yes (1)
  - No, introduction of HPV as primary test in cervical cancer screening is not planned yet (2)
  - No, introduction of HPV as primary test in cervical cancer screening remains as scheduled (3)
  - Others (4) \_\_\_\_\_
- 

Q18 Has the research and development output of the lab changed as a consequence of Covid-19?

- Yes (if yes please provide details) (1)  
\_\_\_\_\_
  - No (2)
  - N/A (3)
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Q19 Additional comments related to the impact and implications of Covid-19 testing and HPV based screening .

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End of Survey