

HPV infection: Epidemiological-Molecular study in a cohort of women in Kinshasa



HPV testing

- $\checkmark\,$ Collection of **cervical samples** is not always easy
 - in resource-limited settings
 - in populations where these procedures may be less well accepted (ex. for young age or socio-cultural/religious implications)



- Urine sample for the detection of HPV infection
 - \rightarrow non-invasive
 - → more accessible and acceptable to women
 - \rightarrow less expensive
 - → bypasses medical examination
 - \rightarrow even easier to perform than self-collected vaginal swabs





HPV Testing from Dried Urine Spots (DUS)

DRC HEALTHCARE FACILITIES

- 50µL of urine samples were spotted on 5 preprinted circles on a filter paper
- DUS was dried for 3h
- DUS was stored in a paper bag in a dry place at RT (25–30°C)

Urine samples collection and DUS preparation

November 2014 - January 2015

N = 456

Asymptomatic women, 30-49 years of age

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						SPAZIO RISERVATO AL LABORATORIO DI SCREENING	FARMACI ALTRO	ART.	SETT. GESTAZIONE				REPARTO	D A T I A N A G R A F I C I N E O N A T O

UNIVERSITY OF MILAN, STIS LABORATORY

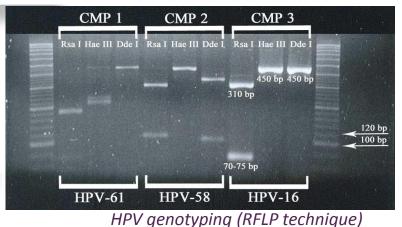
- 3 circles were cut out using a sterile scalpel blade, transferred into 1mL of Lysis Buffer, incubated on a roller mixer for 30' at RT and then centrifuged for 15" at 1500 ×g
- <u>Nucleic acids extraction</u>: lysate (750µL) was extracted using the NucliSENS EasyMAG method
- <u>HPV detection</u>: nested PCR amplifying a fragment of 150 bp of ORF L1 region
- <u>HPV genotyping</u>: first step (450 bp) of HPV positive samples was genotyped using RFLP technique

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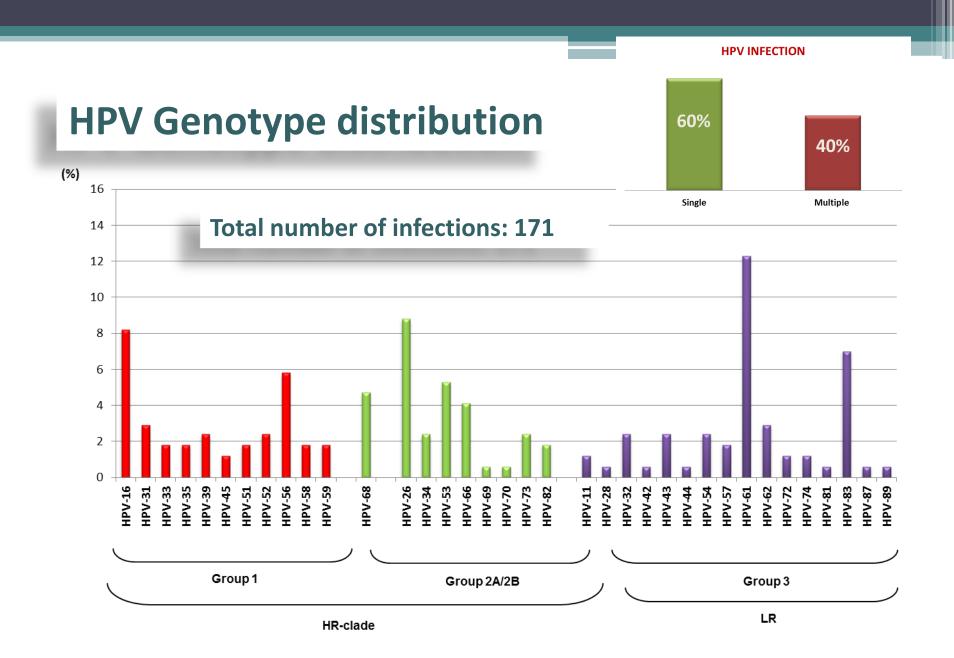
HPV detection and genotyping (31/03/2015)

N = 242/456 (53%)

(all DUS prepared in November-December 2014)



HPV Detection and Genotyping Sample: 447 women 17.4% 22.8% 51.7% 48,3% 37.5% HPV-24.4% **DNA pos** 20,5% positive groupe 1 ■ HPV-DNA NEG ■ HR Group 1 ■ HR Group 2A-2B ■ LR Group 3 ■ NT



What these results suggest?

- ✓ HPV prevalence (51,7%) is high, but not so far from that observed in studies conducted in Africa using the same molecular methods in women with normal cytology (Kenya: about 40%, Mozambique: 32-41%)
- ✓ The genotype distribution is similar to that found in women of other regions, including those in developed countries (and Italy)
- ✓ More than 60% of HPV-DNA positive women is infected with at least one genotype of HR-clade, about 40% with HR genotypes of Group 1
- These data, support the need for prevention interventions targeted at women of this age group (> 30 yrs)
- ✓ DUS could be a useful tool for planning cervical cancer screening strategies, especially in less developed, rural regions
- ✓ DUS could also be useful for
 - epidemiological/virological surveillance where pelvic examination is not practical (ex. post-vaccination surveillance in adolescent women) or where other strategies are difficult to apply
 - monitoring of type-specific prevalence (vaccine-preventable HPV types other non-vaccine types)



Thank you for your attention



In alcuni paesi un semplice pap test ti può salvare la vita. Fondazione Veronesi e Cesvi, insieme lavorano perché in Congo la salute della donna diventi un diritto, come lo è per noi.

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