

Cervical Cancer Screening in the National Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program (NBCCEDP) in four US-Affiliated Pacific Islands between 2007 and 2015.

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Background: Cervical cancer incidence in the US-Affiliated Pacific Islands (USAPIs) is double that of the US mainland. American Samoa, Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI), Guam and the Republic of Palau receive funding from CDC's National Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program (NBCCEDP) to implement cervical cancer screening to low-income, uninsured or under insured women. The USAPI grantees report data on screening and follow-up activities to the CDC.

Methods: We examined cervical cancer screening and follow-up data from the NBCCEDP programs in the four USAPIs from 2007-2015. We summarized screening done by Papanicolaou (Pap) and high-risk Human Papillomavirus (HPV) tests, follow-up and diagnostic tests provided, and histology results observed.

Results: A total of 21,872 Pap tests were conducted in 14,206 women in the four USAPIs programs from 2007-2015. The overall percentages of abnormal Pap results, 2.4 % for first program screens and 1.8% for subsequent program screens, were similar to results observed in national NBCCEDP data (3.3% and 2.2%, respectively). However, histology results showed a higher proportion of cervical intraepithelial neoplasia grade 2 or worse (57%) in the USAPI than in national NBCCEDP data (38% for the 2010-2015 period). Roughly one-third (32%) of Pap test results warranting follow-up had no data recorded on diagnostic tests or follow-up done. Only two of the four USAPI grantees conducted any HPV testing (for triage or co-testing), and overall, very few HPV tests (total =1203 HPV tests) were conducted in this period.

Conclusion: This is the first report of cervical cancer screening and outcomes of women served in the USAPI through the CDC-funded screening program. The USAPI face significant geographical and technical challenges in implementing cervical cancer screening, particularly in providing diagnostic tests and follow-up services and also in recording follow-up data.

The findings and conclusion of this presentation do not necessarily represent the official position of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.