

Press release

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Basic information

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Department of: Clinical Medicine

Main supervisor: Lene Seibæk, RN, MHH, PhD

Title of dissertation: Non-attendance in Danish cervical cancer prevention programmes.

Date for defence: 4. September 2020 at (time of day): 14.00 Place: Auditorium B (G206-142), Indgang G6, Aarhus Universitetshospital.

Press release (Danish)

Ikke-deltagelse i forebyggelsen af livmoderhalskræft i Danmark.

Livmoderhalskræft er en alvorlig sygdom, der truer kvindesundhed verden over. Ikke desto mindre kan livmoderhalskræft forebygges effektivt gennem HPV vaccination og screening. Det anbefales, at alle kvinder deltager i begge tilbud. Den gruppe af kvinder, som hverken bliver vaccineret eller screenet, udgør en risikogruppe, som kræver særlig fokus.

De første fødselsårge af piger vaccineret mod HPV nåede i 2016 screeningsalderen (23 år) og gjorde det dermed muligt for første gang at identificere og undersøge prædiktorer for og belyse årsagerne til ikke-deltagelse i vaccination og screening samtidig.

I dette ph.d.-projekt fandt vi, at de piger, der udeblev fra vaccination, også var mere tilbøjelige til at udeblive fra screening. Vi fandt også, at de, som udeblev fra begge tilbud, oftest var socioøkonomisk dårligt stillede og havde en etnisk minoritets baggrund, hvorimod at de, som tog imod begge tilbud, havde høj socioøkonomisk status og havde en dansk baggrund.

Vi fandt ydermere, at næsten hver tredje unge kvinde med etnisk minoritets baggrund hverken tog imod vaccination eller screening sammenlignet med hver tiende med dansk baggrund. Blandt førstnævnte gruppe fandt vi varierende grad af ikke-deltagelse blandt kvinder fra forskellige verdens regioner (mellemøstlige og nordafrikanske var oftest ikke-deltagere).

I et interviewstudie blandt en gruppe kvinder fra mellemøstlige og nordafrikanske lande fandt vi, at årsagerne til fravalg af vaccination og screening var komplekse og involverede både kognitive, emotionelle samt sociokulturelle barrierer på såvel personligt, interpersonelt, organisatorisk og samfundsmæssigt niveau. Nyt ph.d.-projekt fra Aarhus Universitet, Health. Projektet er gennemført af Sara Koed Badre-Esfahani, der forsvare det d. 04/09-2020

Forsvaret af ph.d.-projektet er offentligt og finder sted den 04/09-2020 kl. 14.00 i Auditorium B (G206-142), Aarhus Universitetshospital, Palle Juul-Jensens Blvd, Aarhus N. Titlen på projektet er "Ikke-deltagelse i forebyggelsen af livmoderhalskræft i Danmark".

Yderligere oplysninger: Ph.d.-studerende Sara Koed Badre-Esfahani, e-mail: sarbad@rm.dk, tlf. 2835 3899.

Bedømmelsesudvalg:

Jo Waller, MSc. Psychology, DR. Reader in Cancer Behavioural Science and Cancer Research UK career development fellow Cancer Prevention Group. School of Cancer and Pharmaceutical Sciences. Faculty of Life Sciences & Medicine, King's College London. Department of Epidemiology and Public Health, University College London, UK

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Press release (English)

Non-attendance in Danish cervical cancer prevention programmes.

Cervical cancer is a major global threat to women's health. However, in many western countries like Denmark women are offered organised and free-of-charge HPV vaccination (HPVV) and cervical cancer screening (CCS) programmes. Women are recommended to attend both programmes. Women, who attend neither vaccination nor screening (combined non-attenders) constitute a high risk group which needs to be identified and reasons for their non-attendance better understood.

The first birth cohorts vaccinated against HPV reached screening age (23 years) during 2016, thus making it possible to identify combined non-attenders, to investigate predictors for non-attendance and to understand the factors influencing non-attendance.

In this PhD, we found that girls who did not attend HPVV were less likely to attend CCS. We also identified that combined non-attenders were more often socioeconomically disadvantaged and of ethnic minority background. Those who attended both HPVV and CCS were more often socioeconomically advantaged and native Danes.

Further, our study showed that almost one third of young women with ethnic minority background did neither attend HPVV nor CCS in comparison to one tenth of native Danes. Among women with ethnic minority backgrounds, we also found a variation in non-participation among women from different geographical regions. Middle-Eastern and North African countries had the highest degree of combined non-attendance.

Finally, we investigated by means of an interview study the perception of HPVV and CCS among a group of Middle-Eastern and North African women. We found that their barriers to attend the programmes were rather complex involving cognitive, emotional as well as socio-cultural barriers on a personal, interpersonal, organisational and community level. The project was carried out by Sara Koed Badre-Esfahani, who is defending her dissertation on 4th September 2020.

The defence is public and takes place on 4th September 2020 at 2 PM in Auditorium B (G206-142), Aarhus Universityhospital, Palle Juul-Jensens Blvd, Aarhus N.

The title of the project is "Non-attendance in Danish cervical cancer prevention programmes".

For more information, please contact PhD student Sara Koed Badre-Esfahani, email: sarbad@rm.dk, Phone +45 2835 3899.

Assessment committee:

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