Cervical Cancer Prevention and Cancer Control in Latin America-Letter.

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Abstract

Cervical cancer is the most common cancer affecting several Latin American countries, causing high mortality for women living in poor economic conditions. It represents a major public health problem in Latin America and is of major economic impact on society. Cancer treatments are expensive and not affordable for many patients, and the cost must be borne by public health systems. Lou and colleagues reported in Clinical Cancer Research the first study focusing on molecular analyses of cervical cancer in Latin America (1). Their study characterized the exome sequence of 24 tumors from Guatemala and targeted sequencing of seven of the most frequently mutated genes in 675 tumors from Guatemala, Venezuela, and Mexico. They demonstrated frequent activation of the PIK3CA pathway, almost exclusively mutations in the helical domain of PIK3CA. Lou and colleagues also provide preliminary data on the possibility that cooking with wood may be a cancer risk factor, along with the known effects of tobacco. The article is an excellent example of the need for studies of high prevalence cancers in the countries affected and international cooperation in important global health issues. In Peru, we have generated a public health strategy to diagnose and treat cervical cancer.
Demographic characteristics of human papillomavirus detected by PCR-RFLP in peruvian women.


Abstract

In order to determine the sociodemographic characteristics of human papillomavirus (HPV) in patients referred to the National Institute of Neoplastic Diseases (INEN) between 2012-2014, the detection of HPV in cervical cells was performed by polymerase chain reaction (PCR). In 465 cervical samples, 151 (32.5%) cases were HPV positive. The most common genotypes were HPV-16 (23.8%) and HPV-6 (11.9%). The presence of HPV was higher in women aged 17-29 years (OR = 2.64, 95% CI 1.14 to 6.13) and single women (OR = 2.31, 95% CI 1.37 to 3.91). The presence of genotypes of high-risk HPV was higher in single women (OR = 2.19, 95% CI 1.04 to 4.62). In conclusion, young and single women had a higher frequency of HPV-positive cases. Therefore participation by these groups should be emphasized in screening programs with combined molecular and cytological methods in order to detect the risk of developing cervical cancer in a timely manner.