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# The Cervical Cancer Prevention Initiative

News Brief | April 2018

Welcome to the second issue of the CCPI News Brief!

As in our inaugural issue sent in [January](#), we are excited to include important developments in the field of cervical cancer prevention along with news from countries and international partners. We hope you like our new direction!

## Countries on the move

- **Ghana** is developing a cadre of national master trainers in VIA and cryotherapy, in collaboration with the **Uganda Cancer Institute**. A Ghanaian hospital also is offering courses.
- **Kenya, Namibia, and Uganda** are working on national cervical cancer prevention strategies.
- **Zimbabwe** will begin vaccinating girls country-wide in May 2018 with support from Gavi.
- **Myanmar** hosted a **United Nations Joint Global Programme (UNJGP)** on Cervical Cancer assessment mission in 2017. The country is developing new screening and treatment guidelines and Yangon has been selected to be part of a multi-sectoral initiative by the **Union for International Cancer Control** called "C/Can 2025: the City Cancer Challenge."
- UNJGP assessment missions also were conducted in **Bolivia, Mongolia, and Tanzania**.
- The **Botswana** Ministry of Health, in partnership with **Jhpiego**, initiated a demonstration study in October 2017 to expand coverage of cervical cancer screening using self-collected vaginal samples for HPV testing, coupled with visual inspection and treatment of HPV-positive eligible women. The study is expected to complete enrollment in early 2018.
- The **Tunisian** Center for Public Health is spearheading a regional effort to advocate for increased political and financial commitments to eliminate HPV related cancers in the MENA countries, including a [call to action](#). On International HPV Day they announced the organization of the National Coalition for HPV Elimination in Tunisia to advocate for a stronger efforts towards HPV elimination.

## Other developments in cervical cancer prevention

- In May 2017, WHO updated their [HPV vaccine position paper](#).
- PATH published **quality assurance guidelines for careHPV™** in [English](#) and [Spanish](#).

## International partner news

- The **Consortium of Universities for Global Health** and their partners have issued the **[New York Challenge](#)**, calling on all nations to achieve a 70 percent HPV vaccination rate for all girls by the year 2030.
- **Rotary's** Health Education and Wellness Rotarian Action Group (HEWRAG) seeks to raise awareness among Rotarians around the world about issues related to and opportunities to help their communities address cervical cancer prevention. In 2017 HEWRAG expanded their reach and raised awareness through presentations made to Rotarians at the Rotary International Convention in Atlanta, USA, and at regional Rotary meetings in **Nigeria**, the **United States** and **Zambia**. In addition to these larger groups, HEWRAG also made numerous presentations to local Rotary clubs in **Africa**, **USA**, and the **UK**.

Rotarians also are engaged in cervical cancer prevention projects around the world ranging from awareness campaigns, to immunization, to see-and-treat examinations. They are active in **Kenya**, **Senegal**, **Sri Lanka**, **Tanzania**, **Uganda**, and other countries.

For a more detailed report or for additional information, contact [Karl Diekman](#).

- **Pink Ribbon Red Ribbon** signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the **Global Fund** in 2017 recognizing that both parties share the mutual goal of fostering and supporting partnerships between the public and private sectors and people affected by HIV/AIDS and cervical cancer, a recognized co-morbidity, to improve health and wellbeing in countries and communities most in need.
- The **US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention** has been providing global technical assistance for implementation and evaluation of HPV vaccination pilot projects and programs and laboratory-related HPV activities to assess HPV vaccines. They have published a **[summary](#)** of their work.
- In June 2017 the **HPV Prevention and Control Board**, based at the University of Antwerp, collaborated with the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine Vaccine Confidence Project on a workshop entitled "**[Building Trust, Managing Risk: Vaccine Confidence and Human Papillomavirus Vaccination](#)**."

And here are the agenda and notes from the Board's November 2017 **[country-level meeting in Ireland](#)**.

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