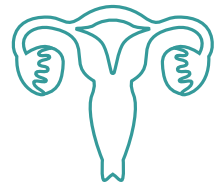


TOOLKIT:

ENGAGEMENT IN THE CERVICAL CANCER RESPONSE - VARIOUS HIV INTEGRATION OPPORTUNITIES



An uneven epidemiological context

- Cervical cancer is the fourth most common cancer among women globally. In 2020, the number of new cases was estimated at 604,000 and the number of deaths at 342,000.
- **Approximately 90% of new cases and deaths worldwide in 2020 occurred in low- and middle-income countries.**
- Two types of human papillomavirus (HPV) (types 16 and 18) cause nearly 70% of high-grade precancerous lesions of the cervix.
- HPV is primarily transmitted through sexual contact and most people are infected with HPV shortly after they begin engaging in sexual activity. More than 90% of them manage to eliminate the infection.
- **Women living with HIV are six times more likely** to develop cervical cancer than HIV-negative women. Cervical cancer is the most frequently detected cancer in HIV-positive people. It is also known that HPV infection increases a woman's risk of becoming infected with HIV.
- Vaccination against HPV and screening and treatment of precancerous lesions are efficient, cost-effective and complementary ways to prevent cervical cancer.
- Cervical cancer can be cured if diagnosed at an early stage and treated quickly.
- In order to effectively combat cervical cancer, primary prevention (HPV vaccination), secondary prevention (screening and treatment of precancerous lesions) and tertiary prevention (diagnosis and treatment of invasive cervical cancer), and where appropriate, adequate palliative care, are essential.
- Given this epidemiological context, the need for an integrated approach to cervical cancer (prevention and treatment) and HIV-related care programs and services is clear. There are several initiatives internationally that already advocate this approach, such as the UNAIDS Global AIDS Strategy 2021-2026, which was the first global commitment for an integrated and people-centered approach, including for HIV/HPV co-infection/comorbidity.

Policy and programmatic frameworks

- The **Global strategy** to accelerate the elimination of cervical cancer as a public health problem, adopted by the World Health Assembly in 2020, recommends a comprehensive approach to preventing and combating cervical cancer. Recommended actions include lifelong interventions. In this context, WHO guidance (guide to essential practice) is particularly important for the development of national plans to achieve the 2030 goals. This guidance, revised in 2021, notably calls for differentiated secondary testing strategies for women living with HIV, in order to develop integrated approaches adapted to the needs and risks of each person – and to be reflected in general national strategies, as well as in cancer and HIV and AIDS plans.
- **National health strategies** are key documents for Global Fund funding requests. In particular, national strategic HIV and AIDS plans set out how a country will respond to the epidemic. The Global Fund supports national efforts to develop and advance their national strategic plans and encourages them to base their funding requests on these plans. Most countries either have, or are also in the process of developing, a national cancer control plan. Strategies are developed in stages to identify, advocate and discuss potential opportunities and challenges.

➤ With **integration** in mind, it is essential that HIV and AIDS and cancer strategies complement each other from the beginning of the planning process, in order to take into account the cross-cutting issues of comorbidities. If this does not happen before strategies are developed, it is important to consider revising them to take these considerations into account. Integration can take

place through different non-exclusive channels, such as a strategy on women cancers, a cancer plan or national health policy. Any integration will involve collaboration with different stakeholders, such as the cancer program or equivalent where it exists, but also community systems, particularly with regard to societal barriers, stigma and discrimination.

The Global Fund and financing the cervical cancer response

The Global Fund has relaxed its funding policies and recognizes that investing in integrated people-centered systems and services by including, among many different considerations, co-infections and co-morbidities, including cervical cancer, improves the overall health status of women living with HIV and the well-being of communities living with/affected by/at risk of HIV infection. Since the first New Funding Model (NFM1), more and more countries have applied for and obtained Global Fund grants to support an integrated cervical cancer response.

Global Fund investments to combat cervical cancer through the different NFMs.

Total NFM1 (2014-2016)	\$ 0.959 million / 6 countries
Total NFM2 (2017-2019)	\$ 3.3 million / 15 countries
Total NFM3 (2020-2022)	Estimated budget of \$ 8,1 million / 21 countries

As part of its funding policy on co-infections and comorbidities, the Global Fund envisages funding these types of interventions when there is sufficient evidence that this intervention:

- is based on sound evidence that takes into account the impact and cost in the context of existing programs
- prolongs life expectancy, prevents and/or reduces mortality and morbidity of people living with HIV, tuberculosis and malaria
- is an effective health intervention that prevents or treats co-infection or co-morbidity that has a disproportionate impact on people living with HIV, tuberculosis or malaria
- complies with national policy guidelines.

For HPV and cervical cancer, this means facilitating access to early cervical cancer testing and treatment for women living with HIV, and vice versa.

A toolkit to explore different integration avenues

There are several avenues that countries can take to initiate or accelerate the fight against cervical cancer, and integrating it into the HIV and AIDS sphere. Whether this relates to updating national strategic plans (HIV or cancer), writing funding requests to the Global Fund, or conducting studies (e.g. to produce analytical data or solutions for the integration of care), L'Initiative provides programmatic experts with a toolkit that comprises various self-training documents to explore these different avenues.

The documents are grouped into four thematic areas:

- **Recommendations and advocacy:** various strategic documents to help with preparing updates to national plans and WHO epidemiological data to support these strategies. It also includes documents that can be used for advocacy purposes.

- **Implementation:** suggested tools to support assessments of care provision sites, data production, rollout of portable tools.

- **Sharing learning:** examples of success stories on integration and opportunities for sharing between different contexts.

- **Planning:** documents to support with national level planning and procurement.

All the resources in this toolkit have been compiled into **four zip files that can be downloaded from L'Initiative's website**





	DOCUMENT	DESCRIPTION	SOURCE	TYPE	FR/ EN
RECOMMENDATIONS & ADVOCACY	WHO strategy	WHO global strategy to accelerate the elimination of cervical cancer as a public health problem released in November 2020.	WHO	Pdf	EN
	Implementation framework	Framework for the implementation of the global strategy to eliminate cervical cancer as a public health problem in the WHO African region.	WHO Africa	Pdf	FR
	WHO Guide to Essential Practice	Essential practices in cervical cancer control, second edition, 2021: Designed to help countries make faster and more equitable progress in cervical screening and treatment. This edition contains a total of 23 recommendations and 7 good practice statements.	WHO	Pdf	EN
	WHO guidelines on the use of thermal ablation for pre-cervical cancer lesions	Thermal ablation is an ablative therapy that requires simple equipment that is light (< 2 kg) and is easily transportable to field clinics. Like cryotherapy, thermal ablation can be performed by various health care workers, including primary health care workers, usually without anesthesia. The objectives of these guidelines are to: provide evidence-based advice on the use of thermal ablation to treat precancerous lesions of the cervix; and assist countries in updating their national guidelines on the use of thermal ablation to treat precancerous lesions of the cervix.	WHO	Pdf	EN
	UNAIDS strategy	"The Global AIDS Strategy 2021-2026 notes that "services for prevention, screening and treatment of cervical cancer are insufficiently integrated with HIV services and typically are not available at scale" (p137) . Also a disaggregated target of the strategy states that "90% of people living with HIV and people at risk are linked to people-centered and context-specific integrated services for other communicable diseases, noncommunicable diseases, sexual and gender-based violence, mental health and other services they need for their overall health and well-being""	UNAIDS	Pdf	FR
	Global action on financing cervical cancer elimination	This report follows the launch by WHO of the Global Strategy to Eliminate Cervical Cancer and explores the challenges of implementing the strategy and how the attention on this can be harnessed.	UICC	Pdf	FR
	Cervical cancer country profiles	"On the WHO website you can download PDFs of cervical cancer country profiles: burden of the disease, overview of primary and secondary prevention... https://www.who.int/teams/noncommunicable-diseases/surveillance/data/cervical-cancer-profiles "	WHO	Web page + Pdf	FR
	Cervical cancer awareness film	"With support from SUCCESS", the global Conquering Cancer Campaign produced a 70 minute documentary, which includes footage from Burkina Faso and Côte d'Ivoire. It gives an overview across three regions of the world of the challenges that cervical cancer poses for women and presents an overview of current responses and is a particularly strong awareness tool. There are also three 8-minute short videos. https://www.youtube.com/c/ConqueringCancer?app=desktop "	Conquering Cancer/ Moonshine	Web page	FR
	Global Fund support to integrate HPV and cervical cancer	Global Fund presentation from a UNAIDS webinar (2022) that reasserts the Global Fund's strategy and support for cervical cancer	Global Fund	Ppt	EN
	Policy briefs	Policy briefs (5) for decision-makers to share learning from the AIMA-CC project (PAC-CI /ANRS in Côte d'Ivoire) which evaluated the effectiveness and the implementation of different algorithms for screening and treatment of precancerous cervical lesions among women living with HIV: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Why there is a need for a cervical cancer screening approach that combines HPV testing and visual inspection with acetic acid (VIA) - Screening for cervical cancer to prevent cancer deaths in women - Combining the VIA with an HPV test is an effective strategy to protect women living with HIV from the cervical cancer - Distribution of cancer management across Côte d'Ivoire - Financial cost of cervical cancer care 	PAC-CI, Expertise France	Pdf	FR



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	DOCUMENT	DESCRIPTION	SOURCE	TYPE	FR/EN
IMPLEMENTATION	Evaluation tools for care sites	Evaluation tool for health facilities, developed by the WHO and adapted by the SUCCESS project to include new technologies promoted by the WHO (HPV biomolecular tests, thermocoagulation treatment and digital monitoring of patients using m-health technologies). This gives a situational analysis of the availability of screening and treatment services to directly measure the resources, processes and impact of specific interventions against the core standards of cervical cancer secondary prevention services. The results of this evaluation make it possible to develop quality improvement plans for care sites and to generate the information necessary to ensure effective planning and implementation of cervical cancer prevention and quality control programs. The tool also assesses compliance with program policies, guidelines and standards, available health services, information and education activities, community and client perspectives, laboratories, infrastructure, equipment, procurement and supply chain management, and information systems, including m-health.	SUCCESS, UNITAID	.txt and .xls	FR
	Data generation tools	Document entitled "Improving data for decision-making: a toolkit for cervical cancer prevention and control programs" identifies operational resources to improve the availability and use of high-quality data for decision-making in programs. These tools are designed to be adapted to different contexts in order to generate the information necessary to ensure effective planning and implementation of cervical cancer prevention and quality control programs.	WHO	Pdf	EN
	White paper: Deploying thermal ablation devices to expand access to treatment for cervical precancer	This white paper documents the experience of a UNAIDS-supported multi-country project on the roll-out of thermal ablation as a portable and effective tool to expand access to cervical precancer treatment: The paper shows that thermal ablation has the potential to significantly expand access to treatment in low- and middle-income countries, where nearly 90% of cervical cancer deaths occur.	CHAI	Pdf	FR
	HPV screening: Introduction and scale up	2020 guide that includes a step-by-step process to follow once the decision has been made to introduce and/or scale up HPV virological testing as a screening assay.	WHO	Pdf	EN
SHARING LEARNING	Project ECHO SUCCESS WEBINAR	"ECHO SUCCESS is a virtual learning space that promotes and stimulates the exchange of knowledge and practices, with a view to supporting French-speaking countries involved in developing and implementing national strategic planning to combat cervical cancer (Objective 90/70/90). 12-session webinar starting in Autumn 2022, registration link: https://iecho.org/public/program/PRGM16608240258742MQKNALTXV "	SUCCESS	Ppt, Pdf and registration link	FR
	SUCCESS project learning	SUCCESS project learning aims to document the experiences of project teams and generate lessons learned during implementation to inform planning and management, including program monitoring and evaluation. Various communication materials are available (brochures, reports, white papers, policy briefs, etc.) to showcase good practices and lessons learned from project implementation countries.	SUCCESS	Expected end of 2022	FR/EN
	Cervical cancer CHAI's project success stories	Success stories: Zambia, Kenya, Tanzania, Malawi.	CHAI	Expected end of 2022	FR/EN
	Financing cervical cancer elimination in Burkina Faso	The Union for International Cancer Control (UICC) commissioned an evaluation of funding for the elimination of cervical cancer in four countries, including Burkina Faso.	UICC	Pdf	FR
	Financing cervical cancer elimination in Côte d'Ivoire	The Union for International Cancer Control (UICC) commissioned an evaluation of funding for the elimination of cervical cancer in four countries, including Côte d'Ivoire.	UICC	Pdf	FR



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	DOCUMENT	DESCRIPTION	SOURCE	TYPE	FR/EN
PLANNING	Country cancer plans	"Site housing cancer plans from different countries, compiled by the International Cancer Control Partnership (ICPP) https://www.iccp-portal.org/map "	ICPP	Web page	FR/EN
	HPV test_GF_Wambo	List of WHO pre-qualified HPV tests available on the WAMBO Global Fund procurement platform (March 2022). The full list of products available on WAMBO can be accessed via: https://www.theglobalfund.org/media/5878/psm_products-hiv-who_list_en.pdf	Global Fund	Web page + Pdf	EN
	UNICEF catalogue	UNICEF catalogue containing, among other things, available thermal ablation equipment: https://supply.unicef.org/catalogsearch/result/?q=ablation		Web page	
	Cost assessment tool	Cost assessment tool over five years: inspired by the WHO tool (WHO cervical cancer prevention and control costing tool, C4P) with integration of HPV tests and thermal ablation tools and webinar in French to get started, developed by SUCCESS.	SUCCESS	Expected end of 2022	FR
	HPV test pricing and supply information	Price of HPV tests	CHAI	Ppt	EN
	Prices of portable thermal ablation devices	Prices of thermal ablation devices	CHAI	Pdf	EN
	Knowledge repository	"The WHO knowledge repository is a portal that provides access to resources and tools to support cervical cancer elimination. https://cceirepository.who.int/ "	WHO	Web page	EN