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Prevalence of human papillomavirus genotypes in UAE

Infection with human papillomavirus is the cause of cervical cancer which is one of the leading causes of death in women. Infection is common in developing countries. For primary prevention, vaccines are available. For secondary prevention cytological examination has been recommended which has recently been modified to contesting with molecular detection of virus. Information on genotype distribution in UAE is scanty. We used a multiplex PCR test (Seegene, South Korea) to examine simultaneously cytological examination and human papillomavirus (HPV) genotype. Study was carried out to document the prevalence of genotypes in women attending clinics for routine screening. A total of 178 were included in the analysis. Sample for Pap smear or liquid-based cervical cytology carried out. For persons submitting Pap smear, an additional sample in eNAT was collected for HPV detection and genotyping while if Thin Prep LBC was available, the fluid was used. Of the 178 samples tested for HPV, 74 were from women under 30 years of age and 104 from those over 30 years, the age of persons studied ranged from 18 to 65 years. 79 HPV genotypes belong to 20 different genotypes were identified from 60 patients. 48 were Hr HPV genotypes and 31 were Ir HPV. 33 were from persons below 30 years of age and 46 were from women over 30 years of age. The high risk genotype 16 was commonest (12) while Ir genotype 42 (8), Ir 6 (7) and Ir 61 (6) were next in frequency. Hr genotype 18 (4) was fourth among the high risk genotypes after 52 (5) and 53 (5). Other hr genotypes detected were 66 (4), 68 (4) and 39 (4). 32 women were infected by one genotype while dual infection was observed in 12; multiple genotypes (three or more) were detected in seven women. Using the dual strategy of primary prevention by vaccination of females below 25 years and secondary prevention of five yearly screening by contesting, it is conceivable to have zero cervical cancer by 2020 in UAE, thus preventing a preventable cancer and providing the best preventive healthcare in the world.

Biography

Ashok Rattan has expertise in Microbiology, Immunogenetics and Molecular Biology and held important positions in academics (JN Medical College, Aligarh; AIIMS, New Delhi; Sharjah Medical College and Mahatma Gandhi Medical University, Jaipur); in industrial research (Ranbaxy New Drug Discovery and Fortis Clinical Research Ltd) and in diagnostic labs (Religare SRL Diagnostics and Star Metropolis). He has published over 100 research papers in peer reviewed international journals. He has contributed more than a dozen chapters in different books and has conducted workshops on WHONET in all nine SEARO countries.

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