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ABSTRACTS
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EMPIEDIOLOGICAL STUDY ON THE PREVALENCE OF HPV INFECTION OF WOMEN IN PORTUGAL - A CLEOPATRE STUDY

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Information on HPV prevalence and distribution of HPV types is scarce in Southern Europe. This is the first comprehensive study carried out in Portugal.

Objective: To assess the overall and age-stratified prevalence of HPV infection in the female population of Portugal.

Methods: This cross-sectional population-based study was conducted across the five Regional Administrations of Health in Portugal. From February 2008 to March 2009, LBC samples were collected from women ranging from 18-64 years old who attended the medical center laboratories for gynecological examinations of health in Portugal. Descriptive and inferential analyses were performed using SPSS program.

Result: Of the 2326 women included, 2316 had a valid cytological result: 93.8% normal cytology, 2.5% ASCUS, 3.2% LSIL, 0.2% HSIL, and 0.3% other glandular lesions. Overall HPV prevalence was 19.4%. Among positive women, 57% harbored a HR-HPV type. The most frequent HR types were HPV 16 (12.5%), 31 (7.4%), 53 (7.4%), 18 (6.2%), 5 (6.0%), 52 (5.0%), 58 (4.3%), 59 (4.2%), and 2 (2.8%). Overall HPV prevalence was higher in the 20-24 years group (28.8%) than in the 50-54 years group (14.9%). The most frequent HR types were HPV 16 (12.5%), 31 (7.4%), 53 (7.4%), 18 (6.2%), 5 (6.0%), 52 (5.0%), 58 (4.3%), 59 (4.2%), and 2 (2.8%). HPV prevalence was higher in the 20-24 years group than in the 50-54 years group (28.8% vs. 14.9%).

Conclusions: Data presented correspond to the first population-based HPV prevalence study in Portugal and will provide a better understanding of the wide spectrum of HPV infection across Europe. This study will also provide a baseline for future assessment of the impact of HPV vaccination in Portugal and will provide a better understanding of the wide spectrum of HPV infection across Europe.