

HPV prevalence among women attending cervical screening in Latvia in 2023 year

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Introduction

Human papilloma virus (HPV), which is the causative agent of cervical cancer, is one of the most common viral infections of the reproductive system and can be easily diagnosed. To reduce the incidence of cervical cancer, a state-funded nationwide screening program is of great importance. According to the Global Strategy and general recommendations of the World Health Organization, high-risk HPV type DNA testing by highly specific and sensitive molecular diagnostics methods is recommended.

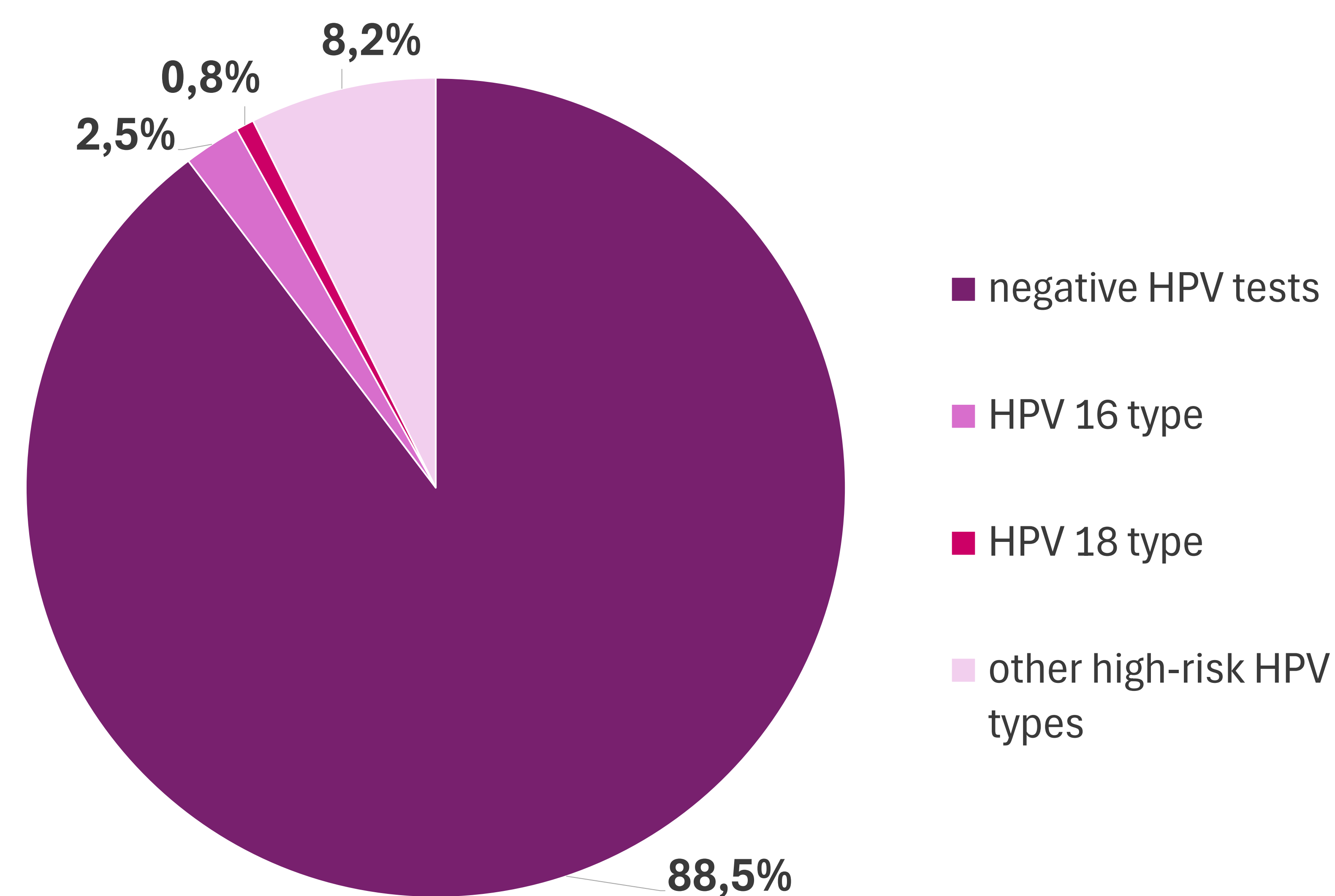
Results

Overall, during 2023 year Central laboratory performed 58911 high-risk HPV DNA tests. It was calculated that 11,5 % of the received samples were positive to at least one high risk-HPV type. HPV 16 type was positive in 2,5% cases, HPV 18 type in 0,8% following other high-risk HPV types (31, 33, 35, 39, 45, 51, 52, 56, 58, 59, 66 or 68) with the highest positive cases found – 8,2%. These single-type HPV infections are more common than multiple-type HPV infections. The overall calculated co-infection rate was 1 % in the analyzed samples in a given period of time. Globally, the high-risk HPV positivity rate varies between countries, however the current global HPV prevalence is estimated to be 11,7%.

Aims and objectives

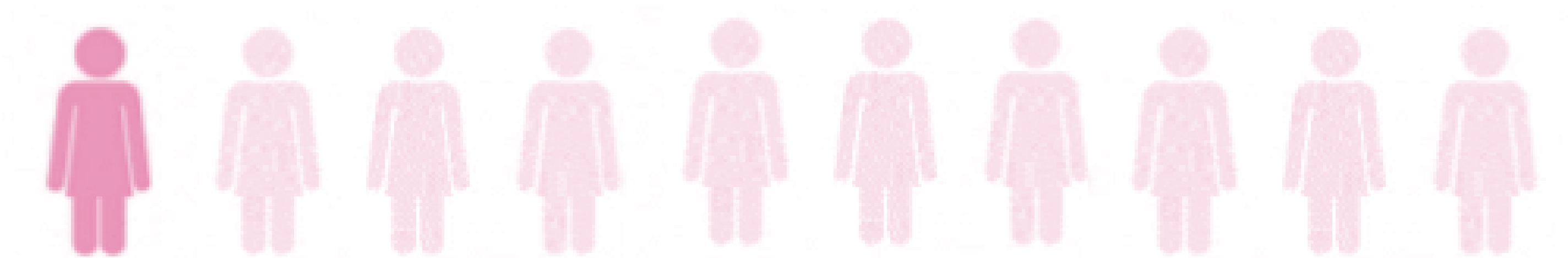
Preventive cervical cancer screening program is realized in Latvia for women aged 25-67. Data on the women who have responded to national screening program in Latvia were gathered in a Central laboratory (Riga, Latvia) from the 1st of January 2023 until the 31st of December 2023.

Distribution of tested high-risk HPV results



Materials and Methods

14 high-risk HPV types DNA testing was done by Cobas 6800, Roche. Testing is based on real-time PCR and the system detects and differentiates HPV 16, 18 types and makes a pull of other high-risk HPV types (31, 33, 35, 39, 45, 51, 52, 56, 58, 59, 66 or 68).



1 of every 10 women have at least one positive high risk-HPV type

Conclusion

Testing data indicates that the prevalence of high-risk HPV types in Latvia is comparable with the global average. It is crucial to maintain and promote the national cervical cancer screening program that includes broad testing. Testing with molecular diagnostics methods provides valuable statistical data that helps evaluate the prevalence of high-risk HPV in Latvian population in the upcoming years.

Contact information

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