



Tunisia

New vaccine introduction in Middle Income Countries: Overcoming barriers to introduce and scale the HPV vaccine Istanbul, Turkey, July 11-12, 2023



Coverage & Key Indicators

General				
	19	20	21	22
Coverage with the first DPT dose under 12 m.(%)	98	94	95	96
Coverage DTP3 vaccine by 12 months (%)	98	97	97	97
Drop-out rate between the first and third dose of DPT vaccine under 12 m. (%)	0	0	0	0
Are vaccines/health interventions delivered to the same target population as HPV vaccine?	VPO: 99.7 dT: 99.7	98.5	98.7	98.8
Cervical Cancer				
Total number of cervical cancer cases	275	342	-	-
Total number of deaths from cervical cancer	185	185		
Cervical cancer incidence rate per 100,000 women		4.6		
Mortality rate per 100,000 women OR % from all deaths		2.4		
If HPV vaccine is already provided by the private sector please provide the HPV vaccine full coverage (%) from the national sample	No			
Existence of a National Cancer (or Cervical Cancer) Strategic Plan	Yes			
Do you have a cervical cancer screening program in place? (Please describe the program: age cohort, coverage, methodology)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Since 2006, screening done every 5 years for women over 35 y.o - Since 2022, HPV testing for women 30-60 y.o – pilot Grand Tunis 			

HPV Vaccine – Plans for Introduction	
Plans for HPV vaccine introduction - if pilot please specify at what level and geographic coverage	National introduction planned in school for girls 11-12 y.o
Planned vaccine product and number of dose strategy (one dose OR two doses)	Quadrivalent, 1 dose
Age cohort (year)	11-12 y.o
Mass campaign (yes/no)	No
Facility-based (yes/no)	No
School-based (yes/no)	Yes
% of girls who are not currently enrolled in or attending school	5%
Mixed (yes/no)	No
Will the HPV vaccine be integrated with other vaccines or health intervention for the same target population?	HPV vaccine to be introduced as part of the required school vaccination schedule

Key Challenges and Strategies

Strengths	Decision making	Challenges	Explaining Factors	Possible Strategies
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vaccination coverage >90% • Strong acceptance of all other vaccines by general population • Well-implemented and effective vaccination strategy • Integration into the school vaccination calendar with a very high school enrolment rate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify and organize awareness-raising actions on the prevention of cervical cancer • Prepare a cost-effectiveness study of vaccine introduction • Obtain the necessary and sustainable financing for the purchase of vaccines, through national funds 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Obtaining the required budget • Risk of poor acceptability as the vaccine will be introduced only for girls as part of the school vaccination schedule 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vaccine price • Recent introduction of other priority vaccines: Hepatitis A and Pneumococcal • Paediatricians' priority for acellular pertussis vaccine 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Obtaining sustainable funds for the purchase of vaccines • Implementation of a communication and awareness strategy for the HPV vaccine