

Cervical Cancer Presentation for Rotary

Dr Edward Mugerwa-Sekawabe

General Introduction

- Rotary core values are **service, fellowship, diversity, integrity, and leadership.**
- As for service, **members** dedicate their time and **resources** to address **critical issues** and improve lives in their **communities** and around the world.
- Theme of the Month of July: **Maternal & Child Health Month**, cornerstone in the provision of Primary Healthcare.

Woman of Africa
Sweeper,
Smearing floors and walls with cow dung and black soil,
Cook, ayah, the baby on your back,
(And another in your tummy [author's addition])
Washer of dishes,
Planting, weeding, harvesting,
Storekeeper, builder,
Runner of errands.....,
Woman of Africa
What are you not?
(*Okot p'Bitek, Ugandan Poet*)

**“IS CANCER OF
THE CERVIX A
PREVENTABLE
DISEASE?”**



Burden of Disease: Major Public Health Concern

- Most common cancer among women
- Leading cause of morbidity & mortality
- Low rates of screening
- Limited access to healthcare
- Percentage of GDP spent on healthcare in Uganda in 2010 was 6.8%, in 2021 was 4.67% (Ug population 48.7 million 2023)
- Health insurance coverage is 0.8% GDP (UNICEF 2023)
- About 84% of the total health spending was in the private health sector

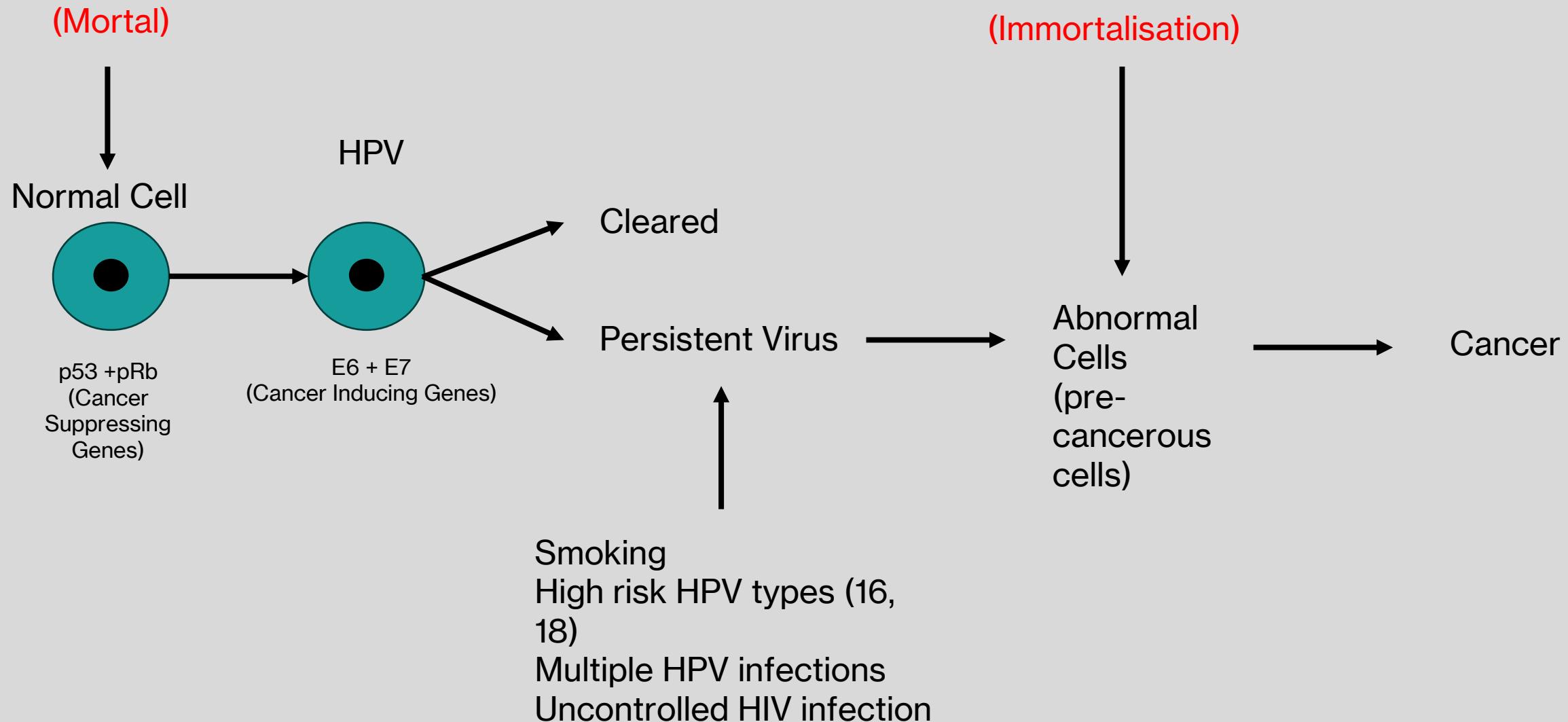
Cause of Cervical Cancer

Dr Zur Hausen (RIP) won the Nobel Prize in Medicine (2008) for his discovery of the Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) as the primary cause of cancer of the cervix (1983).

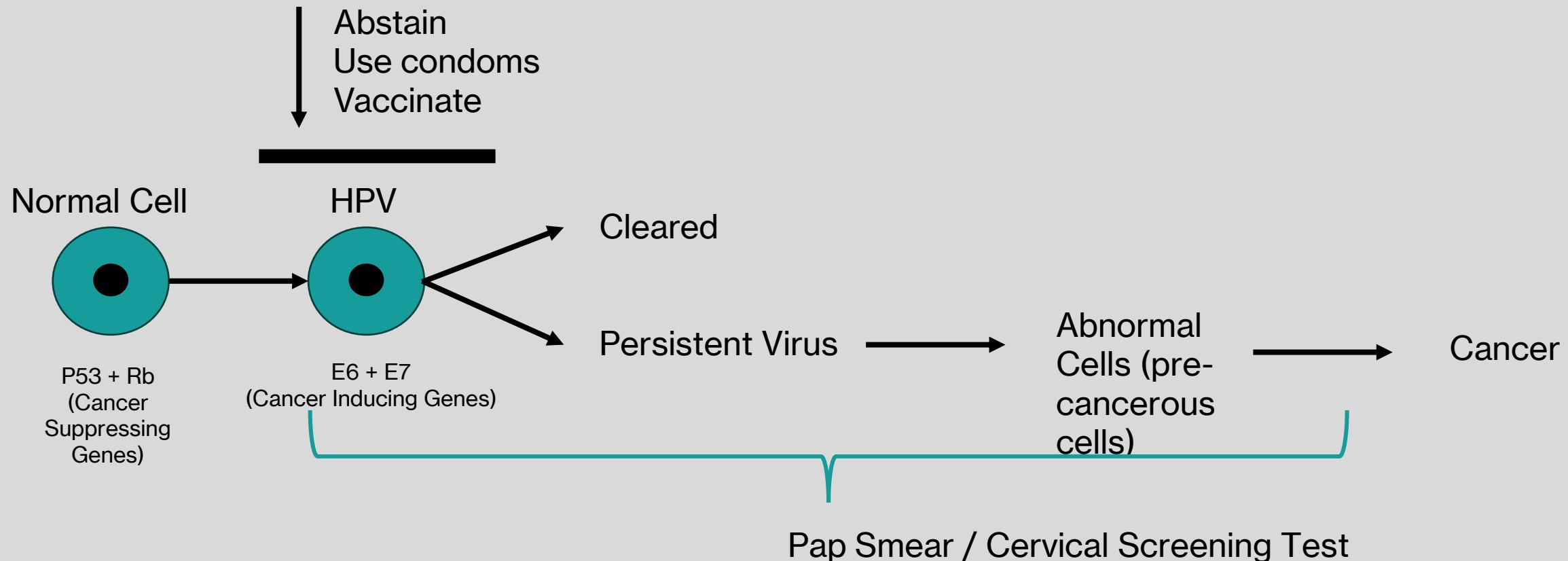
HPV prevalence of 70 % of sexually active adolescents. There are several HPV Types (low risk 6, 11 & high risk 16, 18, 31, 33, 45, 52, 58 etc).

HPV 16, 18 cause about 70 % of all cervical cancer cases, other types cause another 15% of cervical cancer.

Effects of HPV on the Cell



Preventing Cervical Cancer



HPV VACCINATION

97% effective

- Cervarix (HPV Types 16, 18)

- Gardasil 4 (Types 6, 11, 16, 18)

- Gardasil 9 (Types 6, 11, 16, 18, 31, 33, 45, 52, 58)

NB Gardasil also protects against cancer of anus, vaginal, vulva, oro-pharyngeal (throat & mouth), penis as well as genital warts.

HPV VACCINATION



Uganda introduced a policy in 2015 to vaccinate girls aged 10 years and above. Two doses are given 6 – 12 months apart. The goal is to reach 90% of all girls with the HPV vaccine by age 15

Integrated in the School Health system.

Advice is a catch-up vaccine, through age 26 years if not vaccinated in the target age (of 10 - 15 years).

Worldwide, females up to age 45 are encouraged to vaccinate. And to undertake Pap smear test every 3 years, if normal.

It is a viable goal in the next few decades to eradicate sexually transmitted HPV viruses if women and men are vaccinated (Dr Zur Hausen).

“CANCER OF THE CERVIX IS INDEED PREVENTABLE”

Through public awareness (social mobilization, print media and radio), increased access to healthcare (eg Public health camps), vaccination & regular Pap smear/cervical screening tests.

Thank you!

My Family

