RISCC

risk-based screening for cervical cancer

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RISCC is a multidisciplinary consortium of key researchers in Human Papillomavirus (HPV) and cervical cancer prevention.

www.riscc-h2020.eu

This is the first newsletter of the RISCC project, a European Commission funded project to facilitate the implementation of the first risk-based screening programs in Europe.

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In this issue you will find:

- **What is the RISCC project?**
- **News and events**
- **Publications so far**

WHAT IS THE RISCC PROJECT

BACKGROUND and RATIONALE

Cervical cancer can be prevented by restraining acquisition of HPV infections (prophylactic vaccination) or by detecting cervical precancerous lesions (screening).

Screening has substantially reduced cervical cancer incidence and mortality rates in the past but rates have currently reached a plateau or are even increasing in nordic European countries.

Risk-based screening for cervical cancer can thoroughly improve current cervical cancer screening programs applying personalised follow-up based on each woman individual risk:

- Prioritizing an expedite diagnosis and treatment of women at higher risk (reduced burden by means of a more effective screening).

- Avoiding unnecessary tests for women at lower risk (reduced distress in women with positive results and reduced costs by improving the program efficiency).

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

- To develop and evaluate the first risk-based screening program for cervical cancer in Europe.

- To provide open-source tools to facilitate its implementation.

ORGANIZATION and METHODOLOGY

We are organised in 7 workpackages:

WP1 comprises the overall daily coordination of the project.

WP2 focuses on the impact of previous screening results and molecular markers in screening of unvaccinated women. Using prospective data from trials on HPV screening and self-collected samples as well as data from screening registries the risk of cervical neoplasia will be estimated.

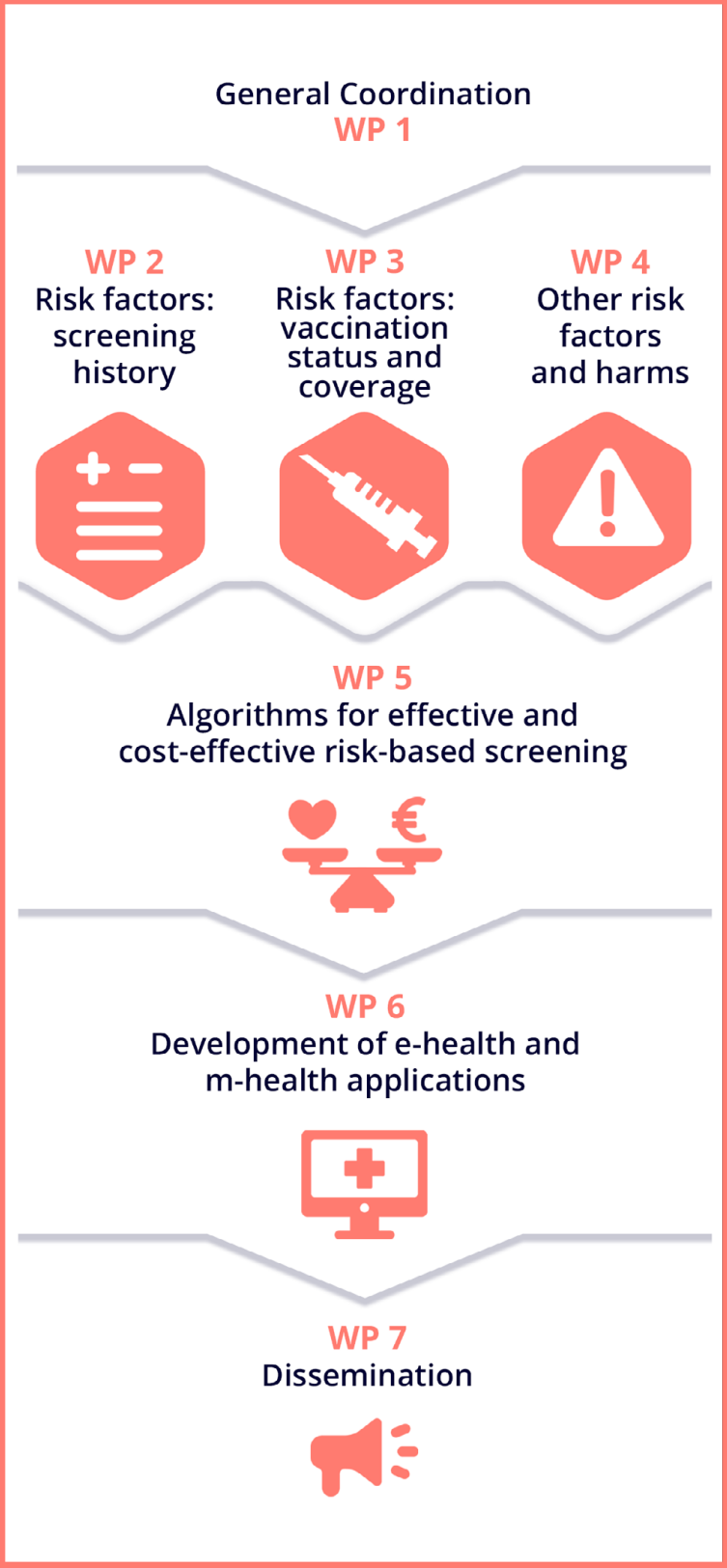
WP3 focuses on the impact of HPV vaccination in screening. It will use a large randomised trial in Finland to estimate the impact of the screening frequency in the risk of cervical neoplasia in vaccinated women as well as the herd effects of vaccination in unvaccinated women.

As part of **WP4** meta-analyses to estimate the risk associated to risk factors of HPV infection progression, such as smoking and use of oral contraceptive, are conducted.

WP5 will provide personalised screening recommendations by conducting cost-effectiveness analyses on health gains, screening-related harms and costs.

WP6 generates a free electronic/mobile platform to automatically estimate the individual risk and deliver invitations based on the recommended screening strategy to be used. The platform will be tested in a pilot demonstration project.

WP7 comprises the dissemination and communication of the project. It will also develop a free online training course for healthcare professional and technicians to facilitate implementation of risk-based screening in Europe.



NEWS AND EVENTS

RISCC consortium meeting (December 9th 2020)

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the second RISCC consortium meeting was hold online. It was a very productive and inspiring meeting in which all members evaluated together the progress of the project. The status of each work package was presented and the work plan was updated accordingly to achieve the planned goals for the project.

Follow us on Twitter!

The Twitter account for the project *@RISCC_H2020* is already active. In it we will post information about the project and relevant information on cervical cancer prevention!

Join us to get the latest information and news on the project!

@RISCC_H2020

PUBLICATIONS SO FAR

Weyers, S., et al. "Cervical Cancer Prevention in Transgender Men: A Review." BJOG: An International Journal of Obstetrics & Gynaecology, vol. n/a, no. n/a, 2020, doi:10.1111/1471-0528.16503.

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and after the COVID-19 Pandemic." International Journal of Gynecologic Cancer, June 2020, p. ijgc–2020–001617, doi:10.1136/ijgc-2020-001617.

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Tagliabue, Marta, et al. "Role of Human Papillomavirus Infection in Head and Neck Cancer in Italy: The HPV-AHEAD Study." Cancers, vol. 12, no. 12, Dec. 2020, p. 3567, doi:10.3390/cancers12123567.

Arbyn, Marc, et al. "Tackling Cervical Cancer in Europe amidst the COVID-19 Pandemic." The Lancet Public Health, vol. 5, no. 8, Aug. 2020, p. e425, doi:10.1016/S2468-2667(20)30122-5.

Arbyn, Marc, et al. "The European Response to the WHO Call to Eliminate Cervical Cancer as a Public Health Problem." International Journal of Cancer, vol. n/a, no. n/a, 2020, doi:10.1002/ijc.33189.

Arbyn, Marc, et al. "Triage of HPV-Positive Women in Norway Using Cytology, HPV16/18 Genotyping and HPV Persistence." British Journal of Cancer, Apr. 2020, pp. 1–3, doi:10.1038/s41416-020-0787-9.

Rezhake, Remila, et al. "Triage Options to Manage High-Risk Human Papillomavirus-Positive Women: A Population-Based Cross-Sectional Study from Rural China." International Journal of Cancer, vol. 147, no. 8, 2020, pp. 2053–64, doi:10.1002/ijc.33001.

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