Low rate of oropharyngeal HPV infection among women with cervical lesion-preliminary results from the South-Eastern Hungarian population

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Context: Although the natural history of cervical and oral HPV infection has been intensely investigated in the last years, the ability of this virus to infect oral and genital mucosae in the same individual and its potential of communicability are still unclear.

OBJECTIVES: The aim of the study to assess the presence of oropharyngeal HPV infection in women with cervical lesions in the South-Eastern Hungarian population.

METHODS: Patients
The total of 109 women have been included in our study between 2013 and 2014. Medical history and the sociobehavioral profile were assessed through questionnaires that included the association of oropharyngeal HPV and the sexual behavior of patients, and also extra and intra-oral examinations were performed.

INTERVENTIONS: Brushing was used to collect cells from the oropharyngeal mucosa. HPV DNA was checked through nested PCR, and Amplicor Test to genotyping.

Main outcome measures: The rate of oropharyngeal HPV infection and the connection between oral and genital infection.

RESULTS: Oropharyngeal HPV infection was detected in two of 109 (1.87%) cases. The most common genotypes were 31, 40/61 and 73 in the oro-pharyngeal region. Clinically no patient revealed HPV-related oral lesions. Moreover, there was no correlation between the presence of oropharyngeal HPV and sexual behavior risk factors.

CONCLUSIONS: Our results suggest that the presence of cervical lesions does not lead to HPV oropharyngeal infection. It also highlights the low rate of HPV infection in the oropharyngeal mucosa of women with cervical lesions in our research sample.

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