

# Update of the role of Human Papillomavirus in Head and Neck Cancer

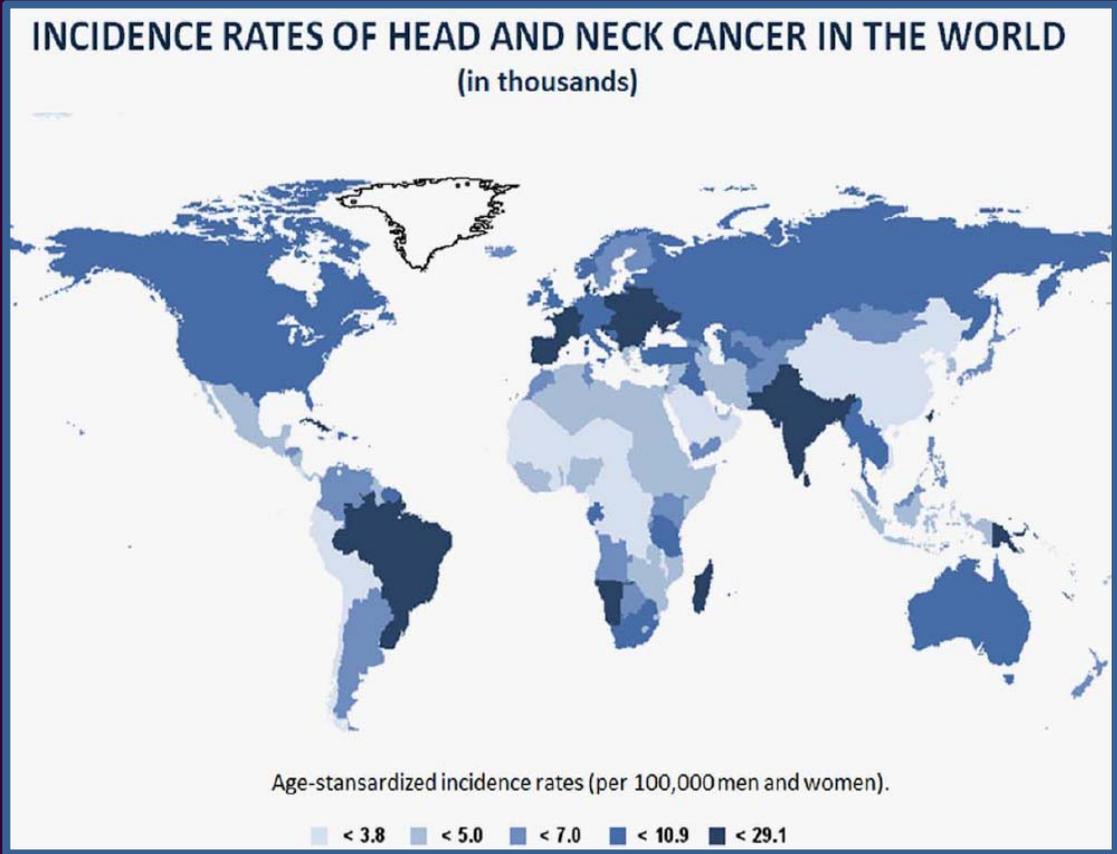
2013 International & 12<sup>th</sup> National Head and Neck Tumour Conference  
Shanghai, 11-13 Oct 2013

Prof. Paul KS Chan

Department of Microbiology

香港中文大學醫學院  
**Faculty of Medicine**  
The Chinese University of Hong Kong

# IARC GOBALCAN 2008



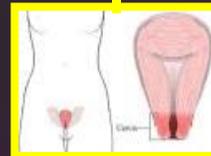
550,300 head & neck cancer / yr

Head & neck cancer ranks:  
7<sup>th</sup> in men  
13<sup>th</sup> in women

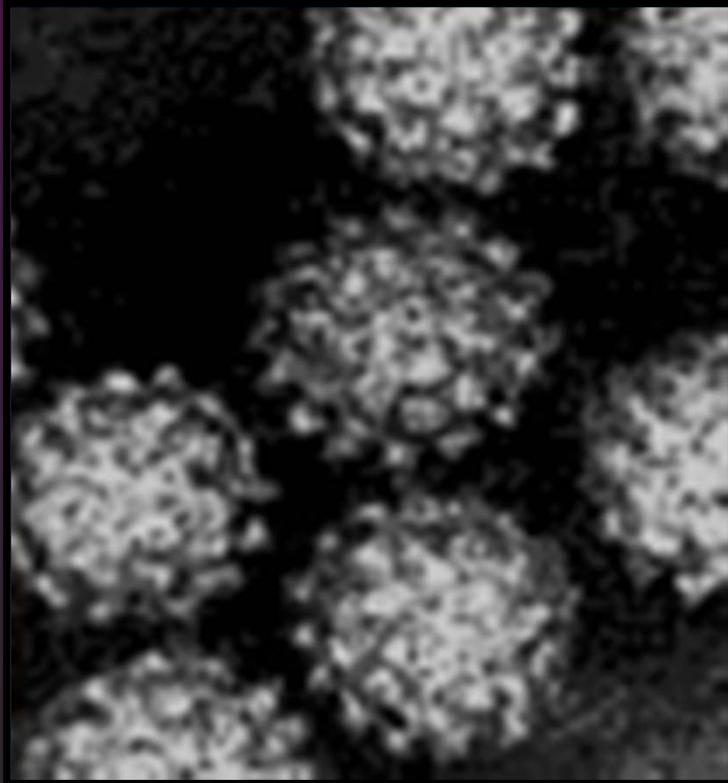
# Human Papillomaviruses HPV



Oropharyngeal cancer



Vaginal cancer  
Vulval cancer  
Anal cancer  
Penile cancer



Non-enveloped  
Papillomavirus



Enveloped  
Herpesvirus

# Transmission

## Cutaneous HPV:

- Direct skin contact
  - Fomite / environment
- 

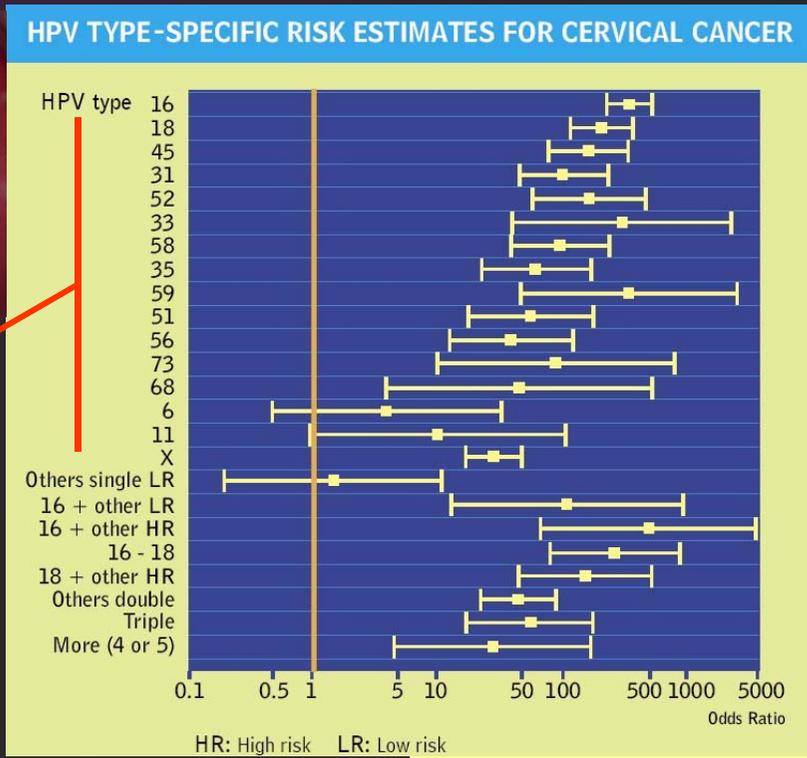
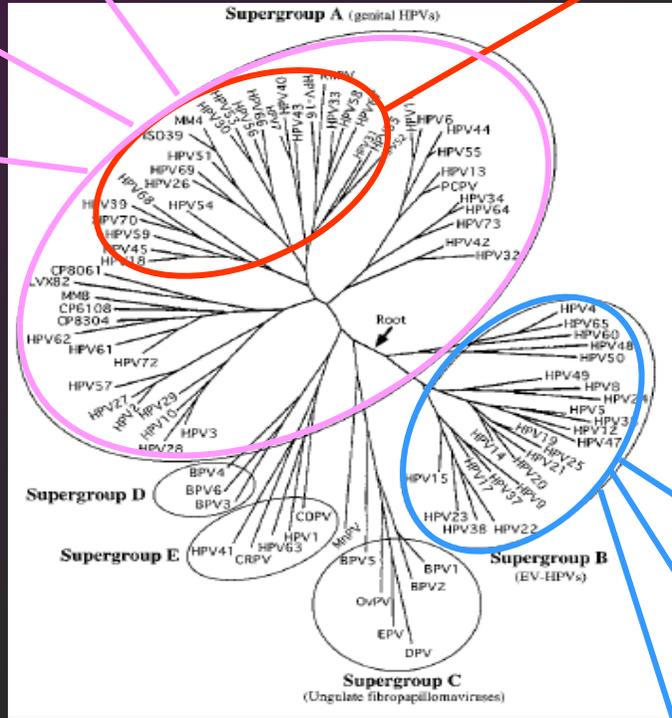
## Mucosal (Anogenital / oral) HPV:

### Sexual:

- Through sexual intercourse
- Genital–genital, manual–genital, oral–genital
- Condom use reduce the risk, but it is not fully protective

### Nonsexual:

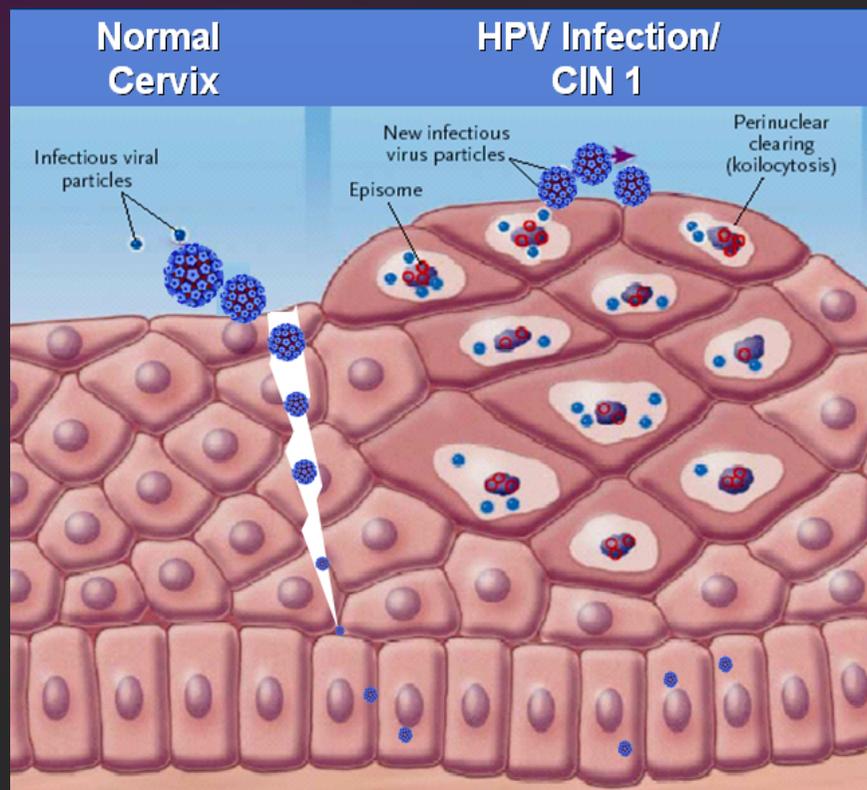
- Mother to newborn (vertical transmission)
  - Fomites / environment
- 



N Engl J Med 2003; 248:518-27



Previous HPV infection  
does not result in long-term protection

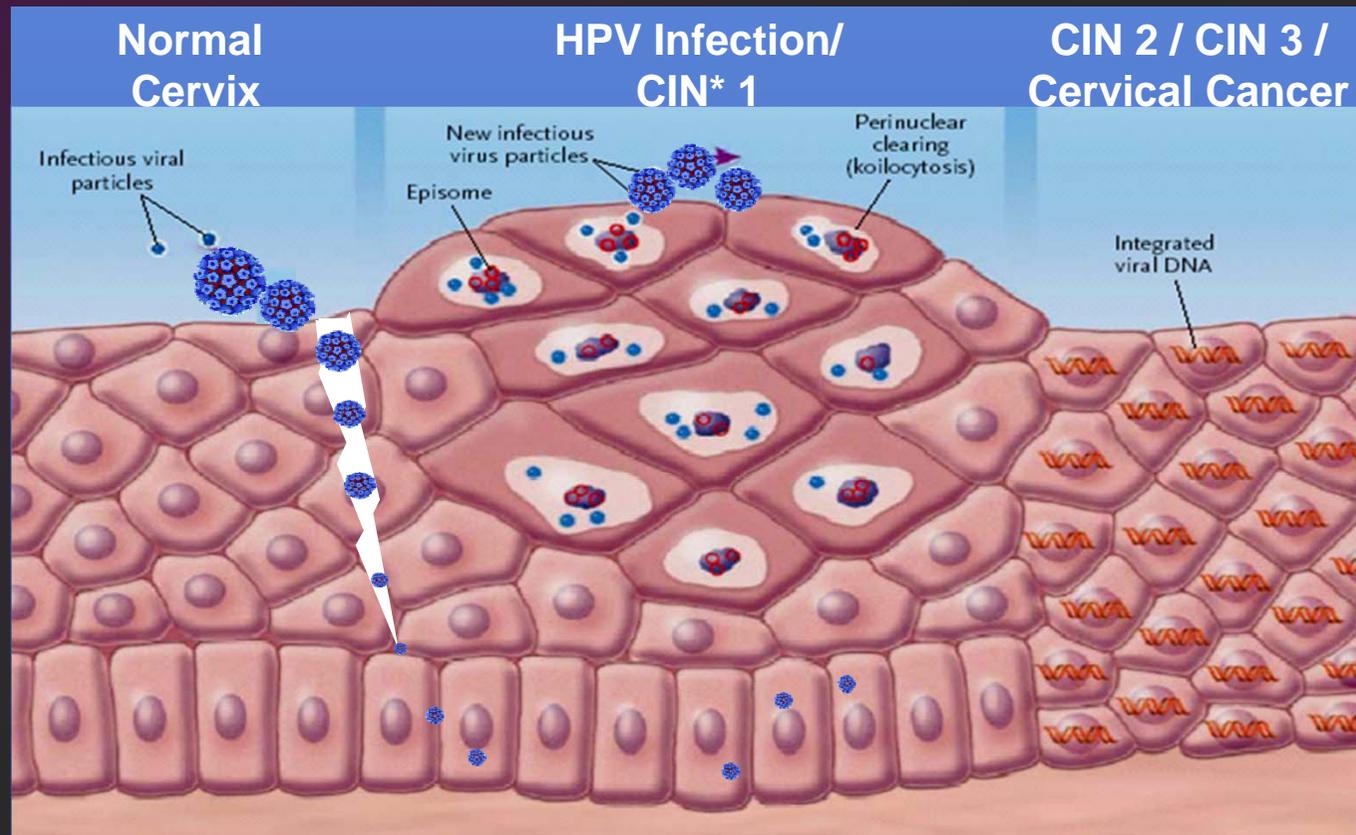


- Poor immune stimulator
- Only ~60% seroconvert
- Low level of serum antibody

Productive  
infection

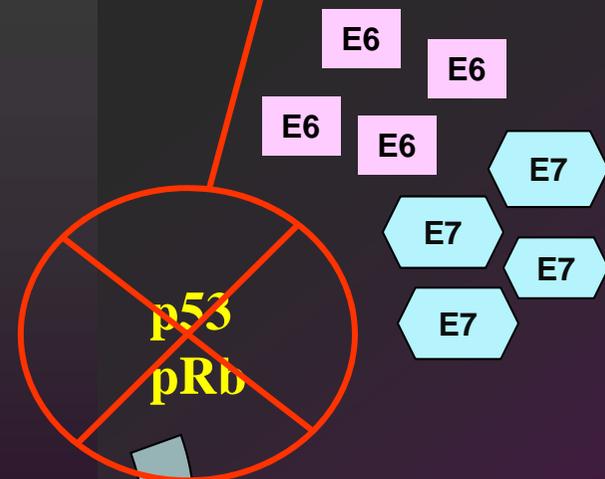
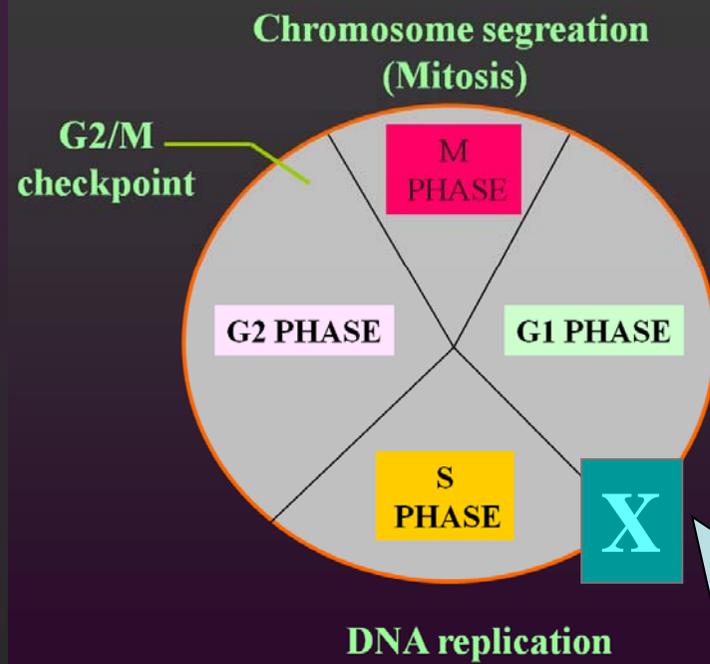


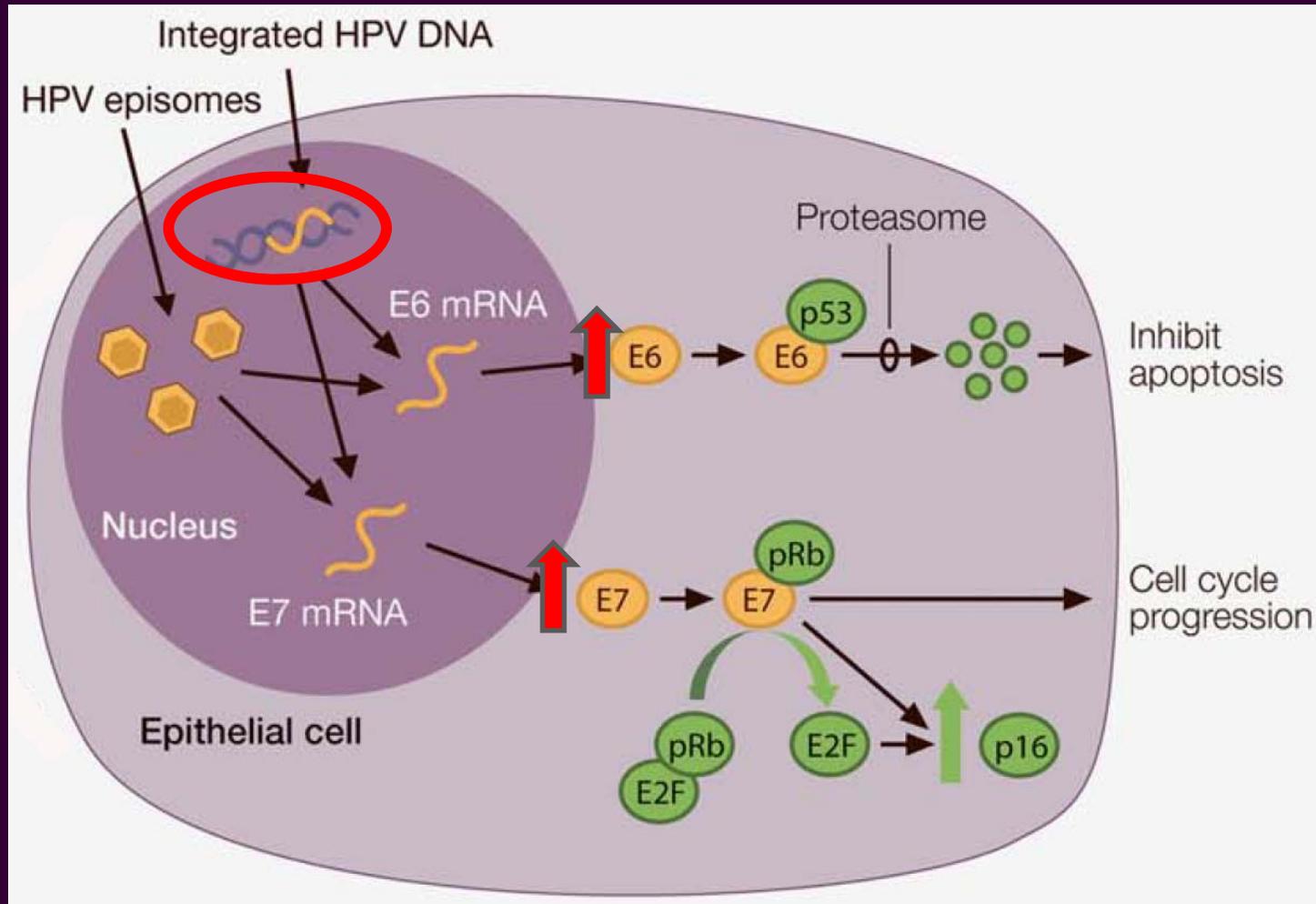
Transforming  
infection



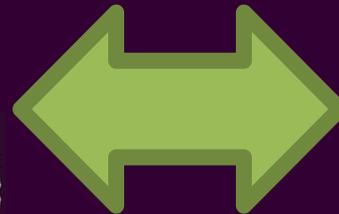
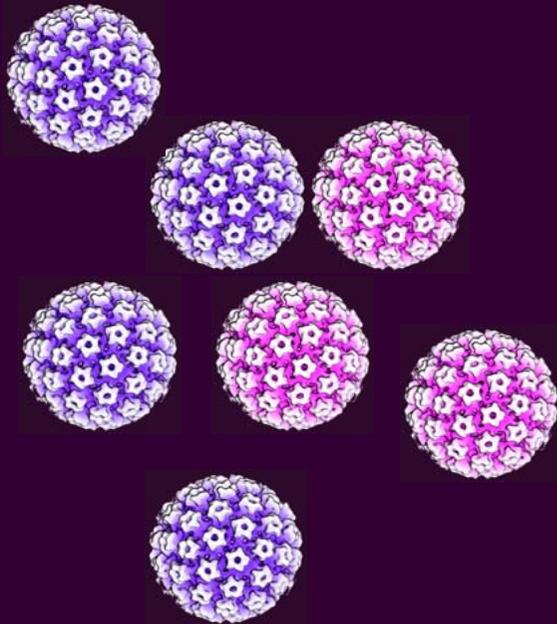
\*CIN = cervical intraepithelial neoplasia  
Adapted from Goodman A, Wilbur DC. *N Engl J Med.* 2003;349:1555–1564.

## Normal Cell Cycle Control





## Human papillomavirus



## Oropharyngeal cancer

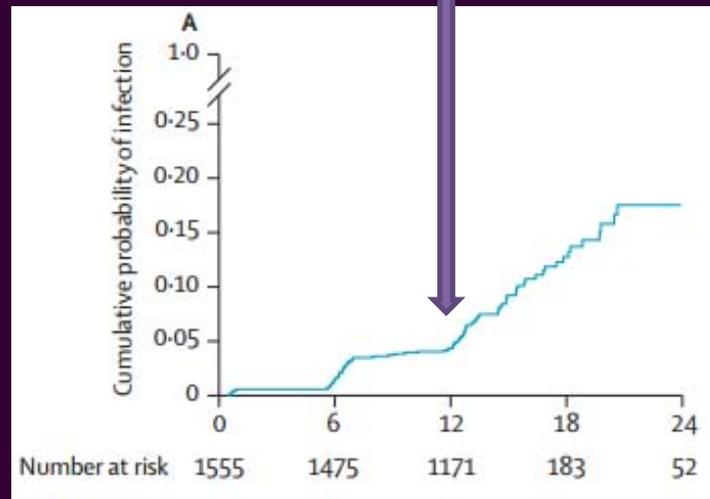


How common is oral HPV infection ?

# HPV Infection in Men (HIM) study Brazil, Mexico, USA

1626 men, age 18-73 yr, healthy, HIV-negative  
HPV test every 6 month

4.4% acquired oral HPV (all types)  
1.7% acquired oral **oncogenic** HPV



Acquisition rate of oncogenic HPV  
/ 1000 person-months

Oral: 2.5

Genital : 22.2

Anal : 3.7



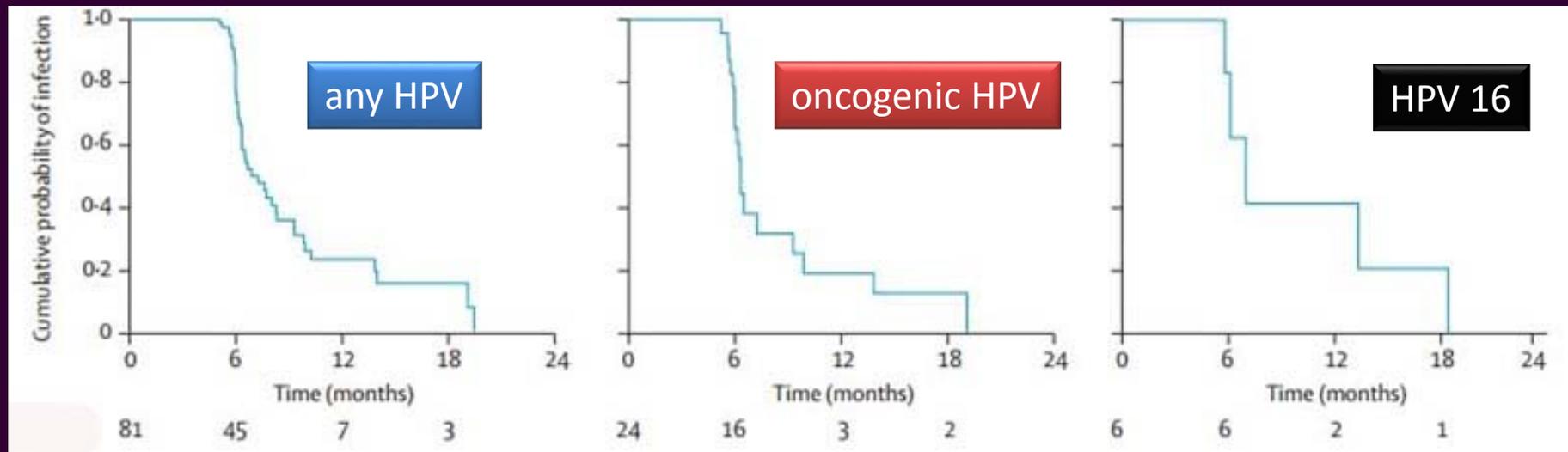
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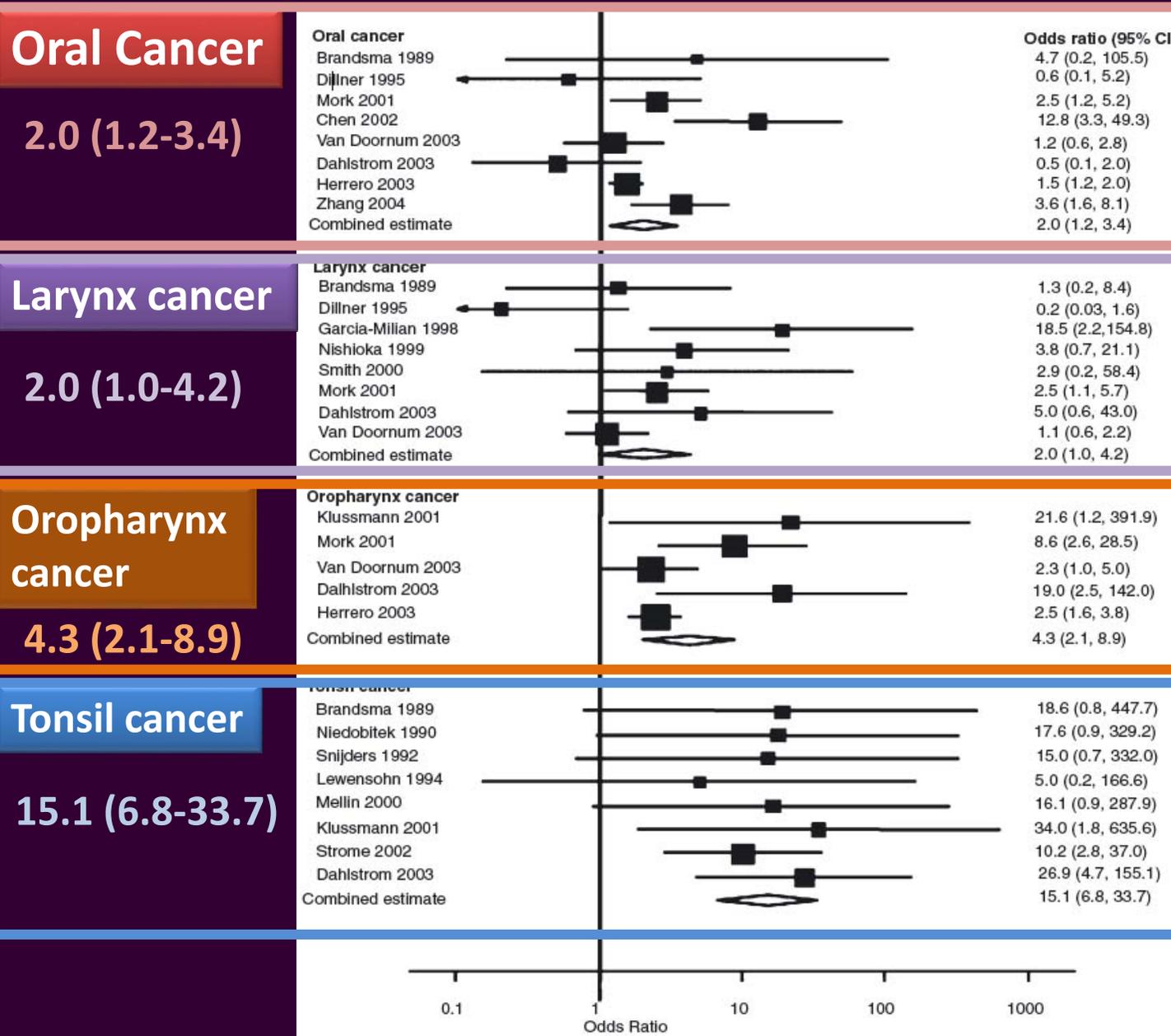
HPV test every 6 month

Clearance :  
 Most cleared < 1 yr  
 Similar across HPV groups

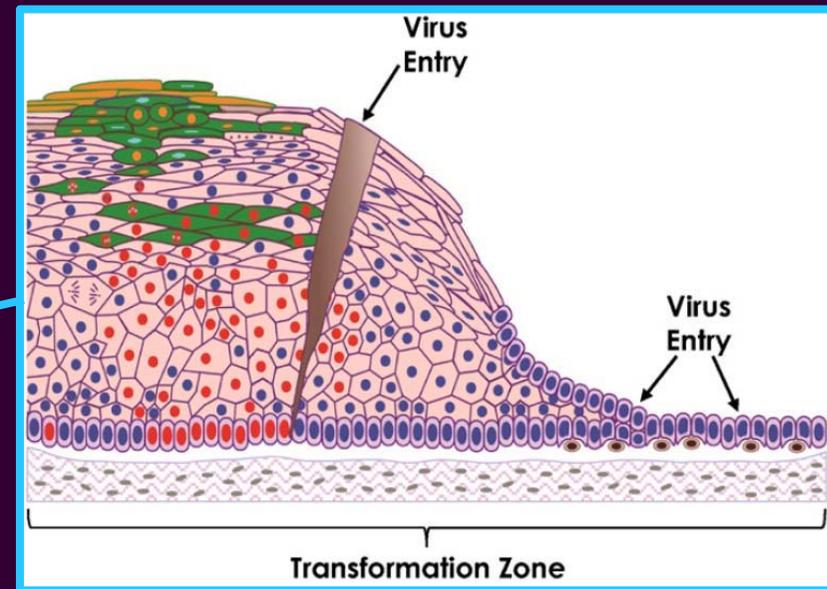
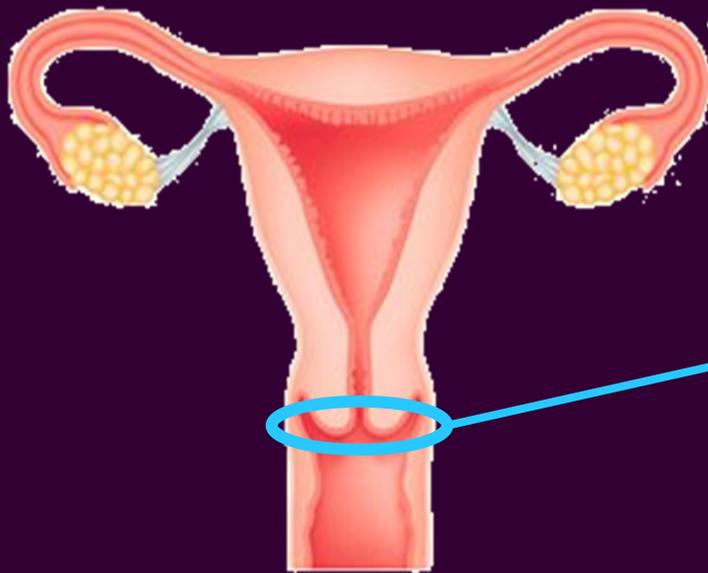


Any preferred anatomical sites within H & N region?

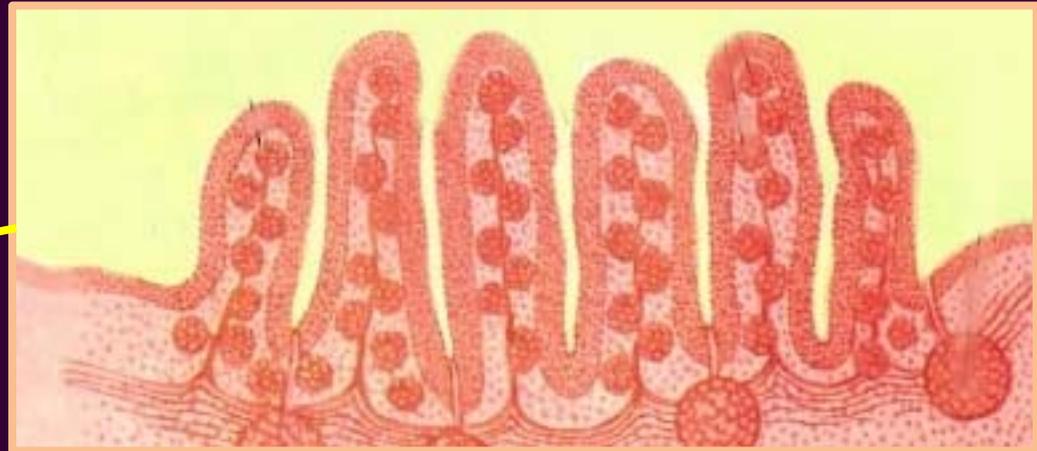
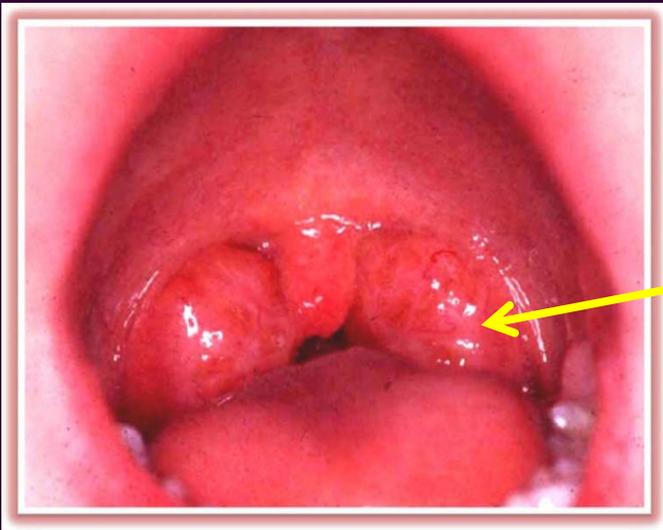
# Association of head & neck squamous cell cancer with HPV16



## Cervical cancer develops from transformation zone



## Tonsillar cancer develops from crypts



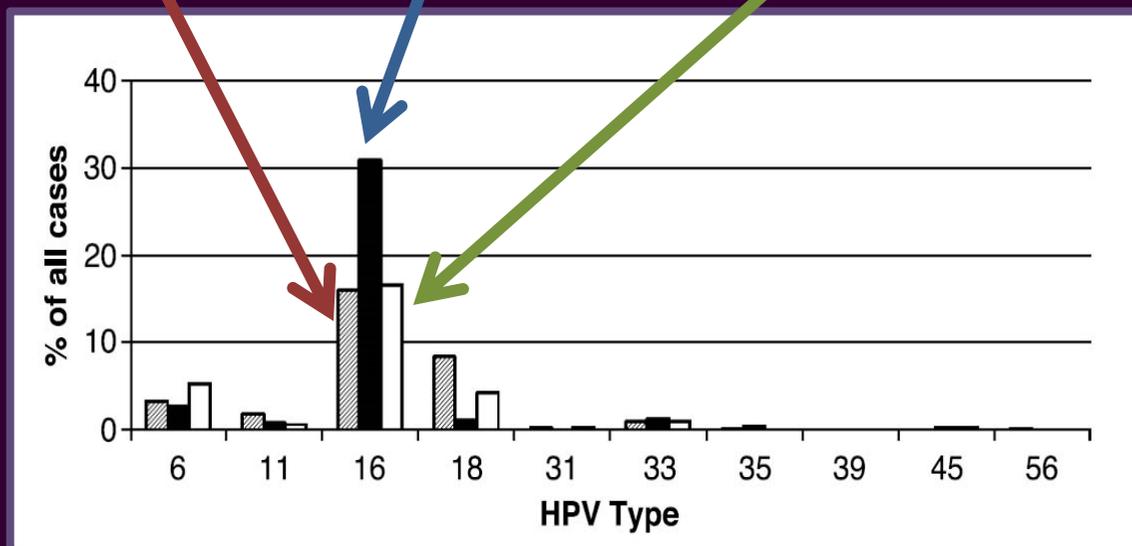
Which HPV type ?

# HPV type distribution in head and neck cancer

**Oral cavity SCC**  
2642 cases

**Oropharyngeal SCC**  
969 cases

**Laryngeal SCC**  
1435 cases



## HPV16 among HPV-positive SCC

Oropharyngeal : 86.7%

Oral cavity: 68.2%

Laryngeal: 69.2%

## HPV18 among HPV-positive SCC

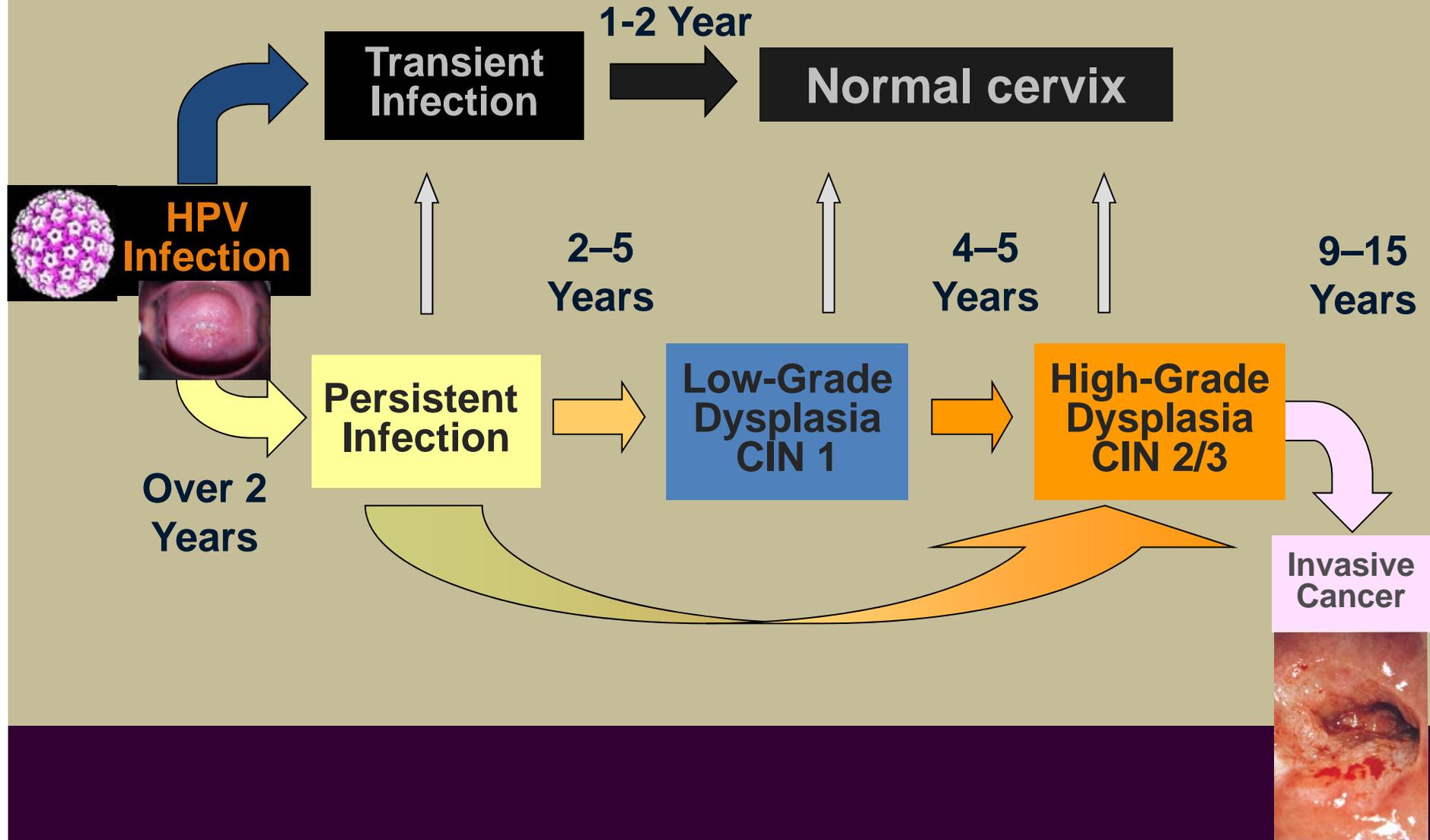
Oropharyngeal : 1.0%

Oral cavity: 8.0%

Laryngeal: 3.9%

Role of HPV in oral precancerous lesions ?

# Natural History of cervical HPV Infection



# HPV prevalence in oral potentially malignant disorder (OPMD)

Leukoplakia

Erythroplakia

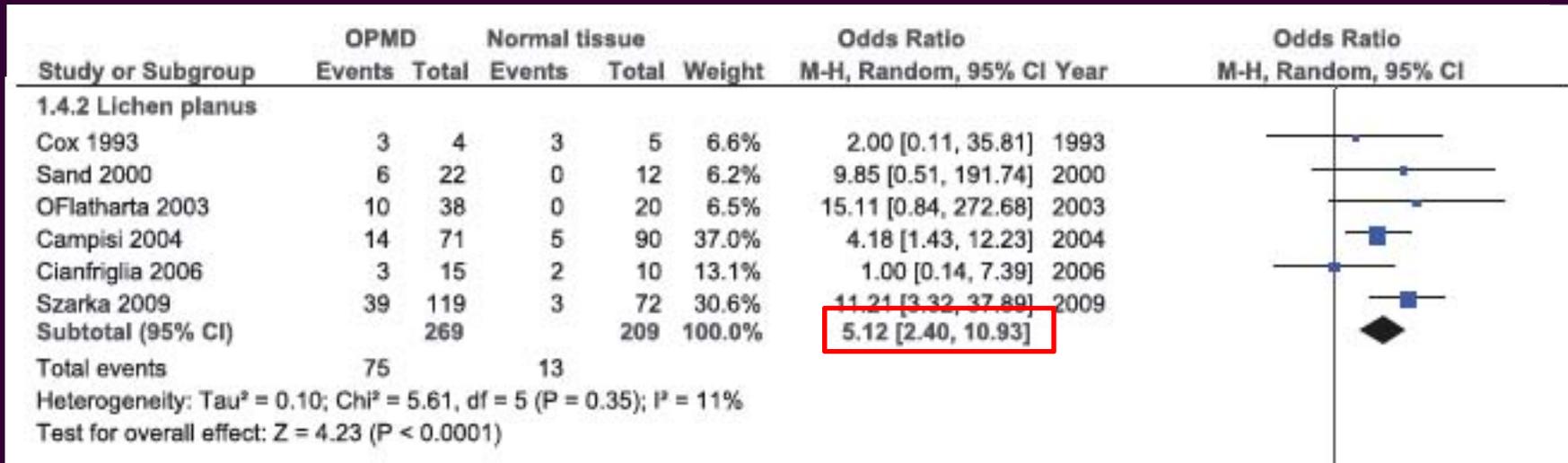
Oral proliferative verrucous leukoplakia

Lichen planus

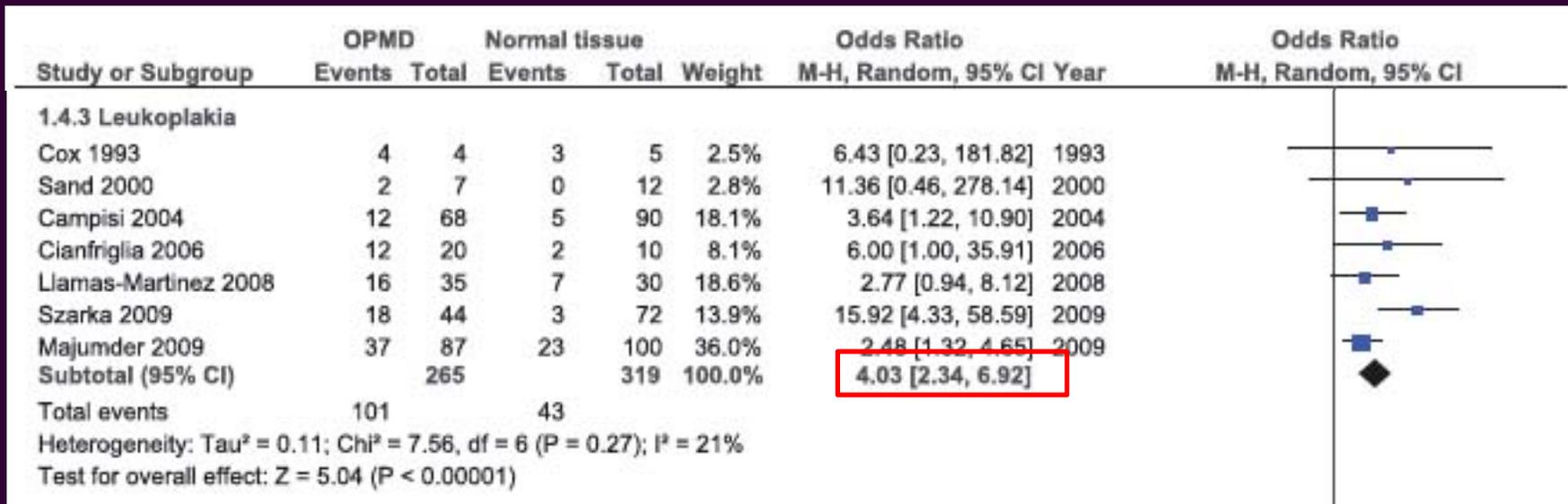
Submucous fibrosis

Study or Subgroup	OPMD		Normal tissue		Weight	Odds Ratio		Year	Odds Ratio	
	Events	Total	Events	Total		M-H, Random, 95% CI	M-H, Random, 95% CI			
<b>1.4.1 OPMD not specified</b>										
Maitland 1987	16	21	5	12	11.7%	4.48	[0.97, 20.59]	1987		
Nielsen 1996	17	49	0	20	3.3%	22.08	[1.26, 387.42]	1996		
Giovannelli 2002	16	59	5	90	23.8%	6.33	[2.17, 18.42]	2002		
Luo 2007	14	46	12	90	35.6%	2.84	[1.19, 6.81]	2007		
Debanth 2009	41	92	5	35	25.5%	4.82	[1.72, 13.54]	2009		
Subtotal (95% CI)		267		247	100.0%	<b>4.44</b>	<b>[2.64, 7.49]</b>			
Total events	104		27							
Heterogeneity: Tau <sup>2</sup> = 0.00; Chi <sup>2</sup> = 2.76, df = 4 (P = 0.60); I <sup>2</sup> = 0%										
Test for overall effect: Z = 5.60 (P < 0.00001)										

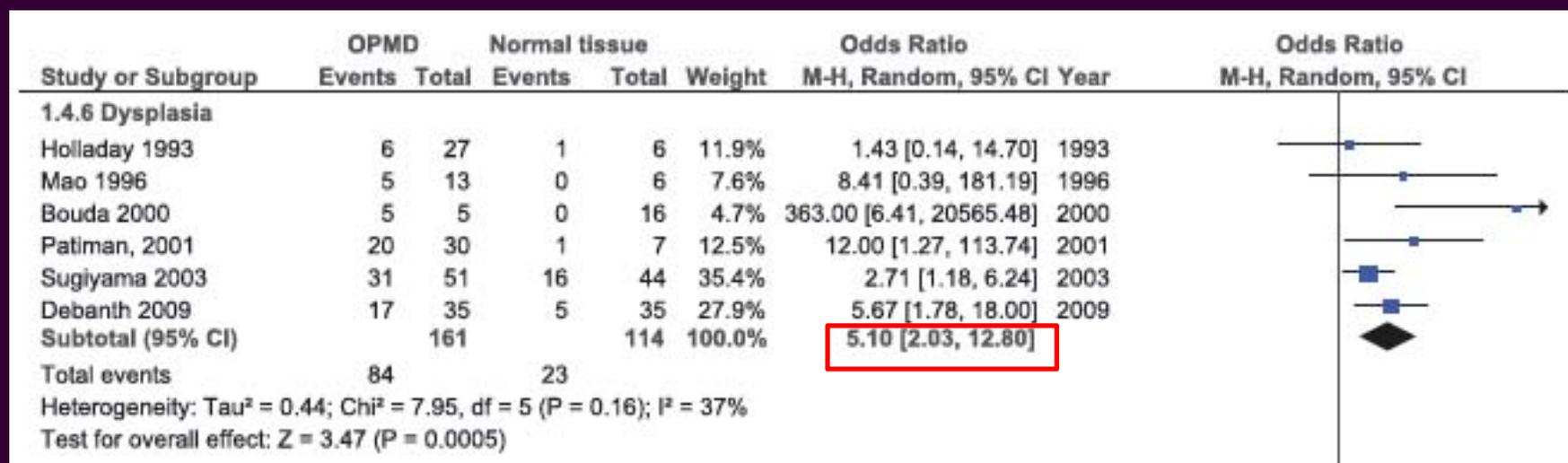
# Lichen planus



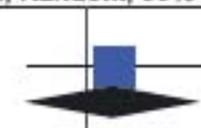
# Leukoplakia



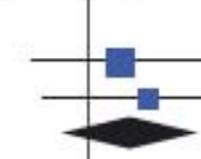
# Dysplasia



## Oral proliferative verrucous leukoplakia

Study or Subgroup	OPMD		Normal tissue		Weight	Odds Ratio		Odds Ratio M-H, Random, 95% CI
	Events	Total	Events	Total		M-H, Random, 95% CI	Year	
<b>1.4.4 OVPL</b>								
Gopalakrishnan 1997	2	10	1	10	100.0%	2.25 [0.17, 29.77]	1997	
Subtotal (95% CI)		10		10	100.0%	2.25 [0.17, 29.77]		
Total events	2		1					
Heterogeneity: Not applicable								
Test for overall effect: Z = 0.62 (P = 0.54)								

## Carcinoma in-situ

Study or Subgroup	OPMD		Normal tissue		Weight	Odds Ratio		Odds Ratio M-H, Random, 95% CI
	Events	Total	Events	Total		M-H, Random, 95% CI	Year	
<b>1.4.7 Carcinoma in situ</b>								
Holladay 1993	3	9	1	6	60.2%	2.50 [0.19, 32.19]	1993	
Mao 1996	3	10	0	6	39.8%	6.07 [0.26, 140.70]	1996	
Subtotal (95% CI)		19		12	100.0%	3.56 [0.49, 25.84]		
Total events	6		1					
Heterogeneity: Tau <sup>2</sup> = 0.00; Chi <sup>2</sup> = 0.19, df = 1 (P = 0.67); I <sup>2</sup> = 0%								
Test for overall effect: Z = 1.25 (P = 0.21)								

A distinct entity ?

# Unique characteristics of HPV-positive oropharyngeal cancer



## Demographic & risk factors:

- Male
- White
- Younger
- Non-smoker
- Non-drinker
- Higher socioeconomic status
- Sexual behavior

## Clinical characteristics:

- Early T stage, advanced nodal stage
- Better response to treatment

## Pathological features:

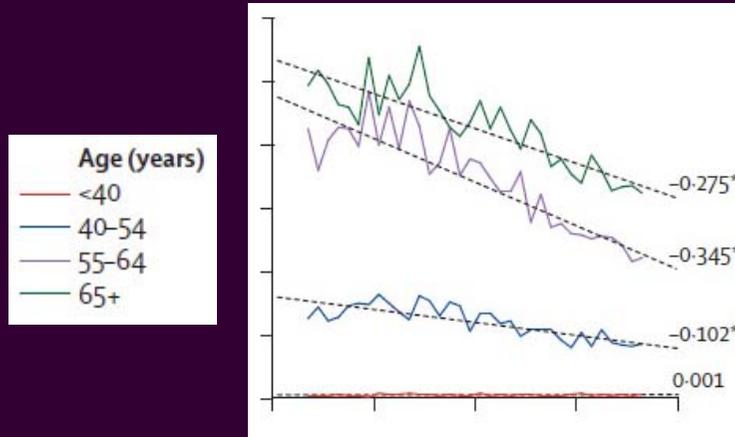
- Arise from tonsillar crypts
- Without significant keratinization
- Basaloid morphology
- Lymphocyte infiltration
- ↑ p16
- Wild type p53

Trend of disease burden ?

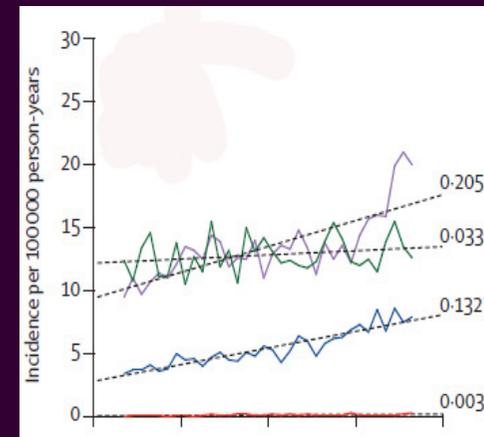
# Changes in incidence of head & neck cancer 1973-2006, USA



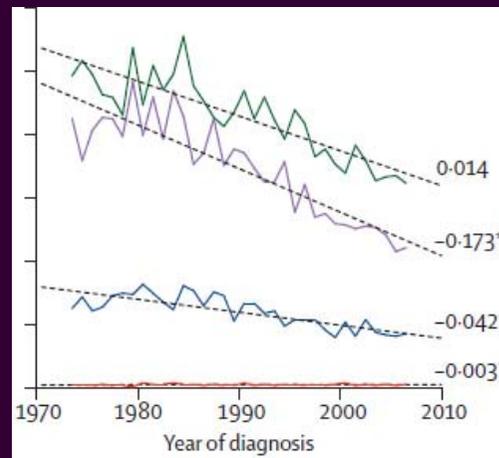
## NOT HPV-related sites, men



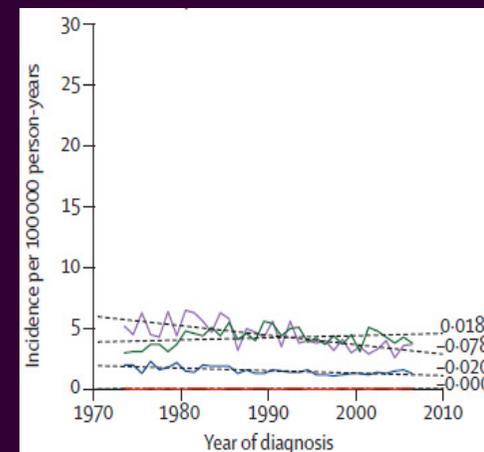
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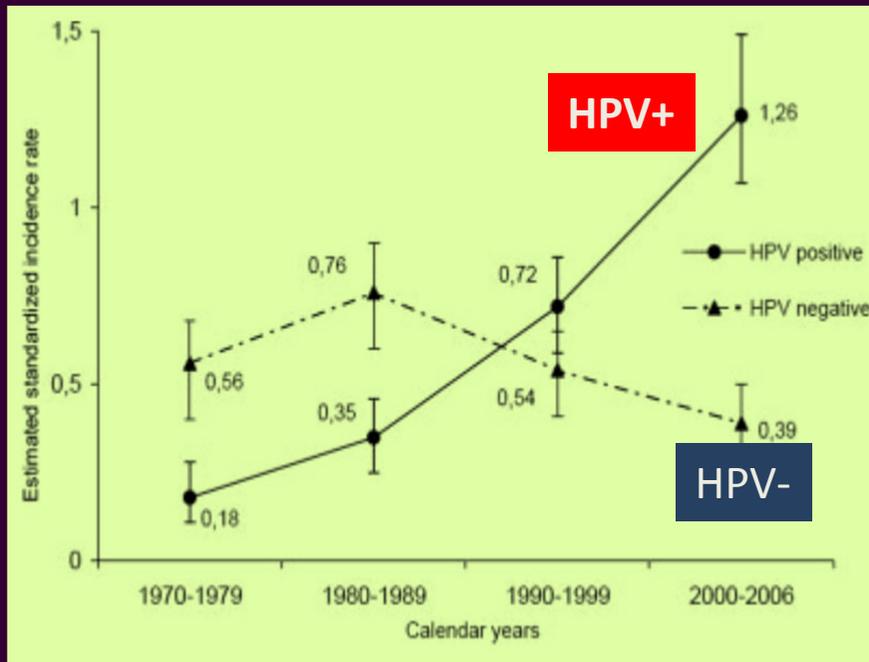
## NOT HPV-related sites, women



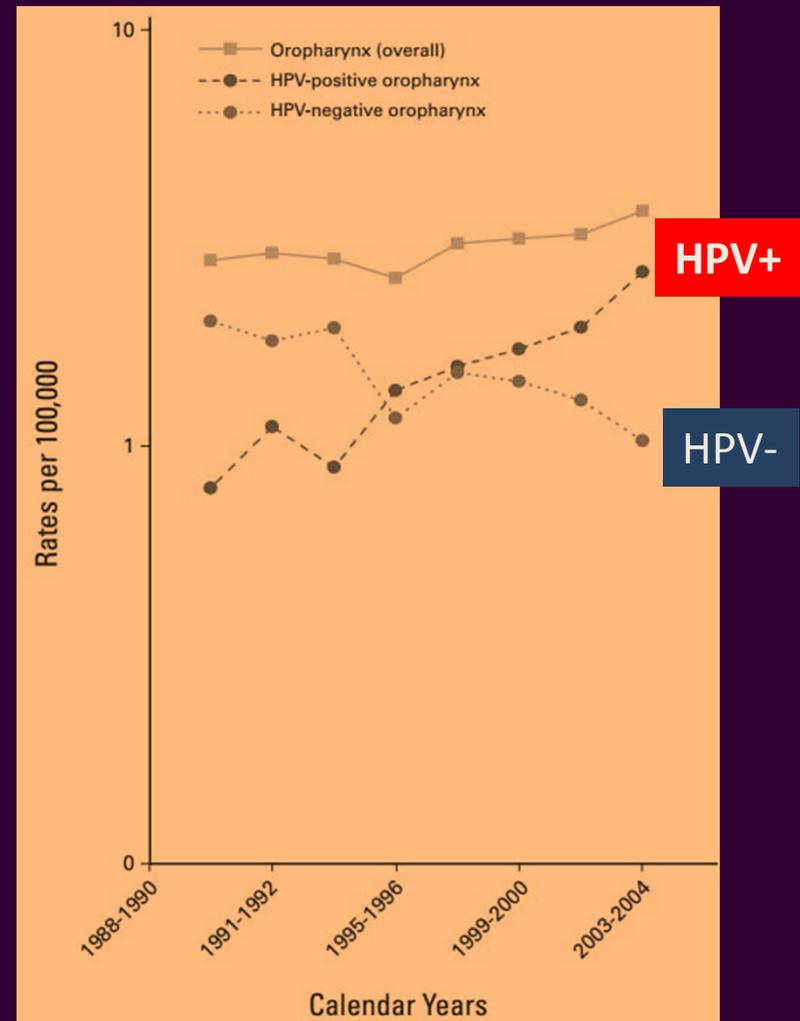
## HPV-related sites, Women



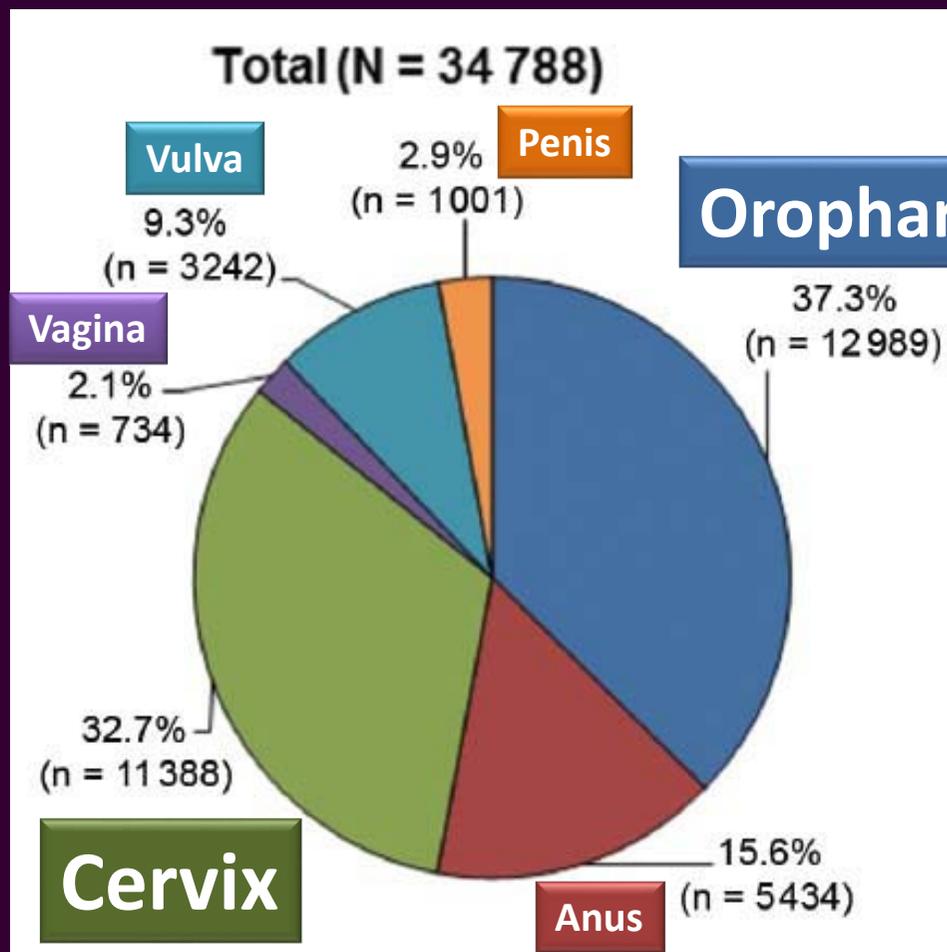
## Tonsillar SCC Stockholm 1970-2006,



## Oropharyngeal SCC Hawaii, Iowa, Los Angeles 1988-2004



No. of new cancers at anatomical sites and cellular types  
in which HPV is frequently found  
USA, 2009



**Estimated contribution of HPV:**

Cervical cancer: ~100%

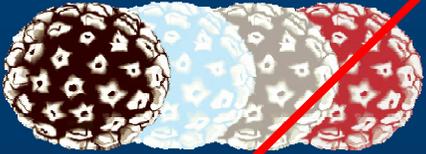
Anal cancer: 90%

Oropharyngeal cancer: >60%

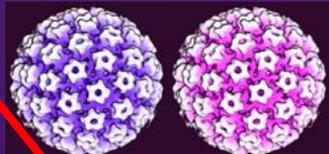
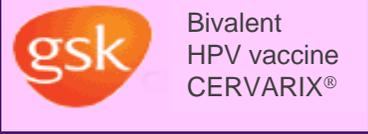
Vagina, vulva, penile ~40%

Prevent by screening & vaccination ?

High-risk  
HPVs



HPV 6,11, 16,18 + Aluminium



HPV 16,18 + Al + AS04



We are just at the beginning of a cancer epidemic !

