HPV testing plays crucial role in cervical cancer prevention

With the right test, a single round of screening can decrease the risk of death from cervical cancer by more than 50%, according to an exciting new study completed on HPV screening in India which was published in the New England Journal of Medicine.

Dr Rengaswamy Sankaranarayanan, lead author of the study and head of the screening group at the International Agency for Research on Cancer, kindly spoke with the UICC to share his insight into the groundbreaking research and what it means for HPV testing in the future.

Oxford Declaration prompts more urgent action in fight against cervical cancer in developing countries

Every 2 minutes a woman somewhere in the world dies of cervical cancer. 80 of the next 100 of those women will be African.

These startling statistics and many more like it has prompted a call for more urgent action to be taken by key stakeholders, including the UICC, in the fight against cervical cancer.

African health ministers, clinicians, activists and representatives of NGOs and Pharma gathered at an Oxford, UK convention organized by AFROx on 27 March, 2009 with the outcome being a call for immediate, vigorous and collective action.

World Health Organization (WHO) releases position paper on HPV vaccination

WHO has just this month released a key position paper on HPV vaccination. This important policy document provides guidance for countries considering introduction of HPV vaccine. It also sends an important signal to policymakers and donors that cervical cancer is a public health priority and that HPV vaccination programmes merit financial and political support from the international community.

14th World Conference on Tobacco or Health

UICC delegates and representatives played an active role in the recent success of the 14th World Conference on Tobacco or Health, which took place between 8-12 March 2009.

Leading scientists, doctors and politicians in addition to numerous representatives from institutions throughout the world came together in Mumbai, India, to discuss the different aspects of tobacco control and develop a new declaration.

World No Tobacco Day, 31 May 2009

This year’s theme for World Tobacco Day, which takes place annually on 31 May, is “Tobacco Health Warnings”. Tobacco health warnings appear on packs of cigarettes and are among the strongest defenses against the global epidemic of tobacco. Warnings that contain both pictures and words are considered by the World Health Organization (WHO) as the most effective at convincing people to quit.

Most people are unaware of the extent of the harm that tobacco causes, even if they have some idea that it is a health risk.
Declaration – 14WCOTH

One of the major outcomes of the 14th World Conference on Tobacco or Health (14th WCTOH) is the new Declaration.

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Prof. Mackay receives lifetime achievement award for tobacco control

Professor Judith Mackay, who has been a long-time leading advocate of UICC and Globalink, was presented with a Lifetime Achievement Award for her contribution to the fight against tobacco globally at the recent BMJ (British Medical Journal) Group Awards ceremony in London on 2 April 2009.

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Cancer training workshop in Nigeria

Over 200 Nurses in tertiary care institutions were invited to participate in a Basic Nursing Oncology workshop hosted by the Society of Oncology and Cancer Research of Nigeria and funded by the UICC.

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2009 Fellowship Award recipients

The International Union Against Cancer (UICC) would like to congratulate the following 2009 Selection of UICC International Cancer Fellowship Awardees:

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Fellowships deadlines

Remember the date: 1 July is the next fellowships deadline for the UICC Yamagiwa-Yoshida Memorial international study grants.

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I love my healthy active childhood campaign - Get your resources now!

It is with great pleasure that we have been able to provide each member organisation with a copy of the UICC report published in conjunction with the “I love my healthy active childhood” campaign, and launched on World Cancer Day, 4 February 2009. Co-authored by Terry Slevin, Annie Anderson, Colleen Doyle, Fiona Bull, Steve Pratt and Mohandas Mallath, the report entitled ‘A healthy active childhood: giving children the best chance of a cancer free future – Tackling obesity as a cancer risk’:

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Obesity as bad as smoking, say health experts

Being obese can take years off your life and in some cases may be as dangerous as smoking, a new study has found. British researchers at the University of Oxford analyzed 57 studies, mostly in Europe and North America, following nearly one million people for an average of 10 to 15 years.

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UICC new members since August 2008

The UICC would like to welcome its newest members. As at the end of April 2009, this brings our membership numbers to 258 full members and 77 associates.

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Canadian Cancer Society CEO Dr Barbara Whylie retires

Dr Barbara Whylie, one of Canada’s leading advocates for cancer control, and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Canadian Cancer Society and its research partner, the National Cancer Institute of Canada (NCIC) has recently celebrated her retirement.

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UICC Cancer capacity-building fund

A second call for projects was launched on 15 September 2008. Forty-one projects from 27 countries have been submitted and 10 projects have been chosen from: Armenia, Kyrgyzstan, Tanzania, Indonesia, Kenya, Nepal, Uganda, Ukraine, Uruguay and Nicaragua.

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15th UICC RRI Breast Cancer Support Conference


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The lead-up to ASCO

ASCO’s annual meeting will take place in Orlando, USA under the theme ‘personalising cancer care’. ‘ASCO is committed to facilitating the clinical and translational science that informs research and practice in cancer diagnosis, prevention and treatment. The 2009 Annual Meeting is planned in pursuit of that commitment’ says President Richard L. Schilsky.

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New report on My Child Matters: to be released this summer!

A new UICC report featuring the first 14 pilot projects of the ‘My Child Matters’ (MCM) campaign is being produced in partnership with Sanofi-Aventis, and is due for launch this summer. The publication presents an analysis of these projects which were undertaken in Bangladesh, Egypt, Honduras, Morocco, Philippines, Senegal, Tanzania, Ukraine, Venezuela and Vietnam.

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UICC President leads new pain relief initiative

UICC President David Hill is leading a new project aimed at achieving one of the 2020 targets set in the World Cancer Declaration: ‘Effective pain control measures will be available universally to all cancer patients in pain’. The World Health Organization estimates that each year 5.5 million terminal cancer patients, living in countries with low or no access to controlled medicines, suffer without adequate treatment.

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