# Human papillomavirus (HPV) prevalence among men aged 19-27 years in the Netherlands.

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**Ethical review** Approved WMO **Status** Recruiting

**Health condition type** Ancillary infectious topics **Study type** Observational non invasive

# **Summary**

#### ID

NL-OMON53219

#### Source

ToetsingOnline

#### **Brief title**

HPV prevalence among young men.

#### **Condition**

Ancillary infectious topics

#### **Synonym**

HPV, human papillomavirus

#### Research involving

Human

## **Sponsors and support**

**Primary sponsor: RIVM** 

Source(s) of monetary or material Support: Ministerie van Volksgezondheid; Welzijn en

Sport.

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#### Intervention

**Keyword:** genital prevalence, HPV, Human papillomavirus, young men

#### **Outcome measures**

#### **Primary outcome**

The primary study outcomes are the prevalence of genital hrHPV \*overall\* and types 16 and 18 and the HPV vaccination status after completion of the catch-up campaign.

#### **Secondary outcome**

Secondary outcomes include the genital prevalences of HPV types other than types 16 and 18 as well as the prevalence of hrHPV in urine to compare the accuracy of hrHPV detection of self-collected first-void urine with self-collected penile swabs.

# **Study description**

#### **Background summary**

A persistent infection with a high-risk human papillomavirus (hrHPV) can cause HPV-related cancer such as cervical, penile or anal cancer. In the Netherlands, a girls-only vaccination (GOV) policy to prevent HPV-related cancer was introduced in 2009. Since 2022, a gender-neutral vaccination (GNV) policy is implemented in which boys and girls are invited for HPV vaccination in the year they turn 10. Additionally, a catch-up campaign for persons aged 19-27 years started in 2023. Such changes in HPV vaccination policy specifically require monitoring and evaluation. While for women the effectiveness of the catch-up campaign can be studied using information from the national population-based cervical cancer screening, for men no such screening for HPV-related cancer and (pre-)cancerous lesions exists yet. At this moment, only projections resulting from e.g. modelling studies can provide insight into the future impact of the catch-up campaign for men. Information on the prevalence of HPV in the general population, especially for men, is limited but relevant for such modelling studies. Also currently, studies evaluating the effectiveness of the GOV programme focus mainly on vaccine effectiveness (VE), and HPV incidence,

prevalence and persistence among women and visitors of sexual health centres. In these studies, the HPV occurrence is measured through genital self-swabs. Considering the young age at which GNV is offered, using genital self-swabs may be less suitable to evaluate the GNV programme. Therefore, alternatives are explored and (first-void) urine is under consideration as a potential easily accessible tool to measure HPV.

#### **Study objective**

In this study, we aim to estimate genital HPV prevalences in men aged 19-27 year in the general Dutch population. Also, we aim to link the hrHPV prevalences to the HPV vaccination status after completion of the catch-up campaign to compare the prevalences between men who received the HPV vaccination during the catch-up campaign versus men who did not receive the vaccination. Additionally, we aim to explore if HPV measured in urine can be used as detection method to measure genital hrHPV prevalence in men and whether it might be an applicable indicator of the impact of HPV vaccination in boys to be used in future monitoring studies.

#### Study design

The study has a cross-sectional design in which participating men will be asked to complete a baseline questionnaire containing questions about demographics and about sexual preferences/behavior. Additionally, men will be asked to take a penile swab and to collect urine (the latter one is optional). After completion of the catch-up campaign, men receive a second short questionnaire to retrieve information about whether they accepted the HPV vaccination during the campaign.

#### Study burden and risks

Participation in the study is not associated with health risks and only requires some time investment (approximately 35 minutes) from the participants to complete the questionnaire and collect the self-sample(s).

# **Contacts**

#### **Public**

**RIVM** 

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#### Scientific

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# **Trial sites**

#### **Listed location countries**

**Netherlands** 

# **Eligibility criteria**

#### Age

Adults (18-64 years)

## **Inclusion criteria**

- Male
- Born from 1996 up to and including 2003
- Provided informed consent

## **Exclusion criteria**

not applicable

# Study design

## **Design**

Study type: Observational non invasive

Masking: Open (masking not used)

Control: Uncontrolled

Primary purpose: Other

#### Recruitment

NL

Recruitment status: Recruiting
Start date (anticipated): 26-09-2023

Enrollment: 1495
Type: Actual

# **Ethics review**

Approved WMO

Date: 21-06-2023

Application type: First submission

Review commission: METC NedMec

# **Study registrations**

## Followed up by the following (possibly more current) registration

No registrations found.

## Other (possibly less up-to-date) registrations in this register

No registrations found.

## In other registers

Register ID

CCMO NL84202.041.23