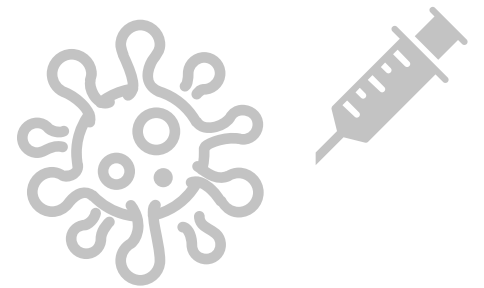


HPV in the Middle East and North Africa



What you need to know:

HPV and cervical cancer

- Human papillomavirus (HPV) is a group of viruses that are extremely common worldwide.
- There are more than 150 types of HPV, at least 13 of which cause cancer.
- Cervical cancer, caused by HPV, is **a leading cause of death** in women within the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region.
- Treatment of advanced cases of cervical cancer **can cost thousands of dollars**, leaving families with significant financial burdens.

Frequently asked questions

1. Are HPV and cervical cancer preventable?

Yes, a vaccine that prevents HPV and cervical cancer exists and is recommended for girls between 9 and 13.

2. Why so young?

This age range is when immune response to the protein administered through the vaccine is high, making the vaccine most effective.

3. Is the vaccine safe?

Yes, the vaccine is made from one protein from the HPV virus, which doesn't cause infections or cancer.

4. Is the vaccine effective?

Studies show that HPV **vaccination is up to 99% effective** in preventing HPV and cervical cancer.

5. Does the vaccine have side effects?

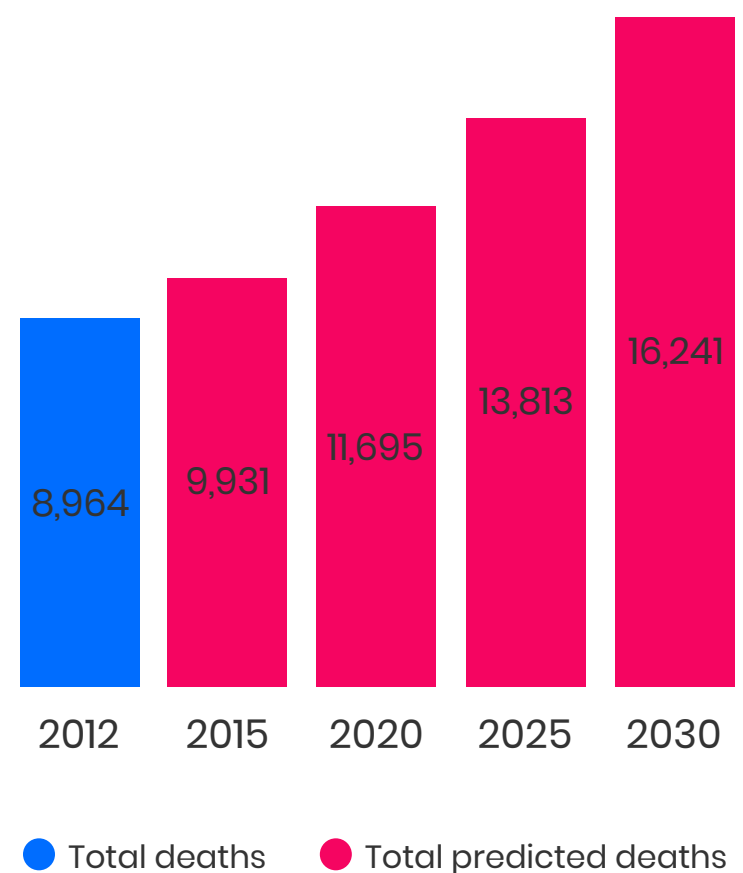
Tenderness where the shot is given is the most common side effect of the vaccine.

6. Where can I find more information?

To learn more about HPV and cervical cancer prevention, visit:

<http://www.who.int/mediacentre/factsheets/fs380/en/>

MENA cervical cancer deaths



Already a top killer of women in the MENA region, cervical cancer mortality rates are predicted to rise even further.

By 2030, if little action is taken, **44 women in the MENA region will die each day** from the preventable disease.