

# AOGIN India E newsletter

The quarterly newsletter of Asia Oceania research organization on Genital Infections and Neoplasia- India  
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## From the Editor's desk

Hello friends,

### HAPPY Vacations

I am proud to release this newsletter from Mumbai during my stay at TATA. This is the third issue of our E newsletter. You will find glimpses of an awareness program and screening camp held at New Delhi and Kolkata respectively. Great job done by our president and web editor. Find Indian data in journal scan and short article on sex education.



**Best wishes**

**Dr. Nisha, Lucknow**

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## Community based cervical cancer screening camp

**Dr Dipanwita Banerjee, Chittranjan National Cancer Institute, Kolkata**

A two days cervical cancer screening camp was held at Contai, East Midnapore, West Bengal under the aegis of AOGIN India. This screening camp was arranged by the Department of Gynaecologic Oncology, Chittranjan National Cancer Institute, Kolkata on 18th and 19th May, 2015. A team of three Health workers, one Co ordinator, and one Doctor visited the remote area of Kusumpur gram panchayat. The program started with an overview on cervical cancer and explaining the importance of cancer screening and detecting the disease at its pre-invasive stage. More than 25 ANMs, ASHA workers along with the block development officer and village head man were present during the awareness session. Over a span of 2 days a total number of 269 women between 30-60 years of age were screened using VIA as a screening method. VIA positive women were immediately taken up for colposcopy and was examined by a small pocket size field colposcope i.e gynocular. Apart from the cervical cancer screening, general health check up was also done and women received syndromic management for their reproductive health complaints. Tablets of iron, folic acid and albendazole were distributed. The team left the place on 19th May evening after accomplishing a hugely successful camp. This event is one more step towards the fruition of the mission and vision of AOGIN India to reduce the cervical cancer disease burden.



**Journal scan :****Dr. Bindiya Gupta, UCMS & GTB Hospital, Delhi**

[PLoS One](https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0125693). 2015;10(5):e0125693. doi: 10.1371/journal.pone.0125693.

**Higher prevalence of human papillomavirus infection in adolescent and young adult girls belonging to different Indian tribes with varied socio-sexual lifestyle.**

**Sharma K, Kathait A, Jain A, Kujur K, Raghuwanshi S, Bharti AC, Saklani AC, Das BC**

**BACKGROUND:** Despite high prevalence of human papillomavirus (HPV) infection and cervical cancer in Indian women, no study has been done in tribal populations whose socio-sexual lifestyle is different. Therefore, HPV screening has been carried out in pre-adolescent, adolescent and young adult tribal girls using self-collected urine samples.

**METHODS:**

20-35 ml self-collected midstream urine samples were obtained from a total of 2278 healthy tribal girls (9-25 years) comprising pre-adolescent, adolescent and young adults from three Indian states: Madhya Pradesh, Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh.  $\beta$ -globin positive 2034 samples were employed for HPV detection and genotyping.

**RESULTS:**

The overall prevalence of HPV infection in tribal girls was 12.9% (262/2034). More than 65% (172/262) of them were infected with HR-HPV types of which HPV16 was the most predominant type (54%). Young adult girls aged 18-25 years showed a significantly higher prevalence of HPV infection (19.2%; OR = 3.36; 95% CI 2.97-6.34,  $P < 0.001$ ) as compared to that in adolescent (11.4%; OR = 1.82; 95% CI 1.20-2.76,  $P < 0.01$ ) or pre-adolescent girls (6.6%).

**CONCLUSION:**

This is a first study showing significantly a very high prevalence of HPV infection in adolescent and young adult tribal girls possibly due to different socio-sexual behavior, indicating a serious health concern for Indian tribal women

## **Cervical Cancer Awareness Program for ASHA workers**


### **Dr. Shalini Rajaram, UCMS, New Delhi, President, AOGIN India**

The Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, University College of Medical Sciences and Guru Teg Bahadur Hospital, Delhi conducted a Cervical Cancer Awareness Programme for ASHA workers on 26/05/2015 under aegis of AOGIN India, AGOI, AOGD oncology committee and FOGSI Oncology Committee. It was first of its kind of training on cervical cancer awareness for ASHA workers and around 200 ASHA workers of Shahadra district participated with great zeal and enthusiasm. The organizing Faculty included Dr. Shalini Rajaram (President, AOGIN India, Vice-President AGOI, Chairperson AOGD Oncology Committee & Member, FOGSI Oncology Committee), Dr Anita Mehndiratta (Medical Officer, NRHM), Dr. Sanjay Singh (District Program officer, ASHA workers), Dr Bindiya Gupta (Clinical Secretary AOGIN India, Member AOGD Oncology Committee) and Dr Nilanchali Singh (Member AOGD Oncology Committee). Ms. Anuradha Singh co-ordinator of the ASHA workers of Shahdara district was a liaison between the faculty and ASHAs. The training lectures mainly comprised of an overview of cervical cancer, cervical cancer burden and various available screening methods for cervical cancer. Risk factors were clearly mentioned, education and life style changes like postponing marriage, coitus and monogamy were stressed upon. Importance of cervical cancer screening was emphasized and they were motivated to bring women for screening. There was an interactive session where the ASHA workers spoke freely and cleared their doubts and apprehensions about screening especially the cost, who would do the screening, will we organize a special clinic for them etc. There was also an interest in HPV vaccination. A pre-test and a post-test was conducted to evaluate change in their knowledge and attitude and a written and verbal feedback was taken. Overall, the programme ended on a very positive note. We hope to cover all ASHA workers in Delhi through collaboration with other districts and hospitals.

## Picture gallery— Cervical Cancer Awareness Program for ASHA workers



### Upcoming Events

	<b>AOGIN_INDIA 2015, CMC, VELLORE</b>
<b>Workshops:</b>	Thursday, August 27 <sup>th</sup> , 2015
<b>Conference:</b>	Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> & Saturday 29 <sup>th</sup> August, 2015 HPV detection / Pathology / Colposcopy / Screening / Research methods
<b>Theme:</b>	<b>HPV infection and HPV related cancers</b>
<b>Website:</b>	<a href="http://www.aogin2015.in">www.aogin2015.in</a>
<b>Contact:</b>	<a href="mailto:aogin2015@gmail.com">aogin2015@gmail.com</a>
<b>Deadlines</b>	<b>Early Birds and Abstracts :</b> 31 July 2015 <b>Late registration:</b> 15 Aug 2015

**Annual Conference of AGOI  
AGOICON 2015  
27th-29th November 2015**

**Hyderabad**



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### Vision Statement

**AOGIN India's vision** is to reduce the burden of diseases caused by reproductive tract infections, especially Human Papillomavirus (HPV), in India. Furthermore, AOGIN India's **mission** is to work with governments, non-governmental organizations, learned societies, health care workers and the lay public, to communicate, cooperate and share information in India and neighboring countries pertaining to prevention, early detection and management of cervical cancer and other genital cancers.

### Sex education to adolescents: Need of the hour. Whose task?

**Dr. Sharad Jain NSCB Medical College. Jabalpur**

Adolescence has a stormy nature, which is very little understood. The adolescent age of first coitus has lowered by two years and it is earlier than first contraception. The innate biological behavior, surrounding psychosocial forces, neglect of sexual learning in adolescents is causing increase in STI, suicide and homicide. It's a global problem, spreading fastest in India.

It is impossible to preach adolescents about abstinence or no sex. Instead, sex education to adolescents as a subject may prevent conception and risk of STI. It is important to teach about various methods for preventing unsafe sex. STI can damage the reproductive organs and debilitate them for life. HPV infection sure can lead cervical cancer.

Results are encouraging from countries having sex education. India needs urgent attention. The aim is to achieve healthy sexual decisions, Targeting for risk free or low risk sex, abstaining or delay sex. Educate for choosing barriers and methods available to prevent conception, prevent them from the risk of STI especially non curative STI like HPV, HBsAg, Herpes and HIV. Provide services by counseling them to get vaccination for non curative viral disease HPV, HBsAg infection. Experts and associations working in these field should utilize an opportunity for positive reinforce healthy sexual decisions by adolescent is the need of the hour.