Cervical Cancer in Pennsylvania

INCIDENCE:
Age-Adjusted Incidence Rates, Invasive Cervical Cancer
Pennsylvania Residents, 2003-2013

The age-adjusted incidence rate for invasive cervical cancer among residents has remained fairly stable since 2003 (see chart above). There were 510 cases of invasive cervical cancer reported in 2003 for a rate of 7.7 per 100,000, compared to 507 cases reported in 2013 for a rate of 7.1. The 2010 and 2013 figure of 7.1 was the lowest rate recorded during the period 2003-2013. Diagnoses of invasive cervical cancer represent missed opportunities at screening (Pap and HPV tests), early diagnosis and treatment.

MORTALITY:
Age-Adjusted Mortality Rates, Cervical Cancer
Pennsylvania Residents, 2003-2013

All cervical cancer deaths should be considered preventable. There were 170 cervical cancer deaths among Pennsylvania residents in 2013, resulting in an age-adjusted death rate of 2.2 per 100,000. This was an increase from the 2012 figure of 1.9. In 2003, the rate was 2.1, and there were 154 deaths reported. The annual age-adjusted death rates have not shown any discernible trends during the period 2003-2013.

Pennsylvania's age-adjusted incidence rates in 2013 for invasive cervical cancer were higher than the United States rates for all cases, whites and blacks. Compared to the United States' rates, Pennsylvania's rates were 10.9 percent higher for all cases, 3.2 percent higher for whites and 44.9 percent higher for blacks. None of these differences were statistically significant at the 95% confidence level. Also, incidence rates were significantly higher among blacks in Pennsylvania than for whites.

The graph above shows that Pennsylvania's age-adjusted mortality rates for cervical cancer were lower than comparable United States rates for all deaths and whites. The Pennsylvania rate was higher than the U.S. rate among blacks in 2013; however, none of these differences were statistically significant at the 95% confidence level. Also, the age-adjusted mortality rate for cervical cancer among black females in Pennsylvania was over two times the corresponding rate among white females in 2013.
STAGE of DISEASE at Time of Diagnosis by Race, 2007-2013

Note: Because in situ cervical cancers are not reportable to the Pennsylvania Cancer Registry, early stage includes local stage only. Late stage is the combination of both regional and distant stages.

The symbol – – – represents the 95% confidence interval.

WHITES - During the three-year period 2011-2013, 42.8 percent of cervical cancer cases were detected at the early stage. Since 2007-2009, the early stage percentage has decreased in each successive three-year period, dropping from 45.1 percent in 2007-2009 to 42.8 percent in 2011-2013. Early stage percentages were consistently lower than the percentage of cases diagnosed during the late stage. The percentage of cases detected at the late stage increased from 51.1 percent in 2007-2009 to 54.8 percent in 2011-2013, the highest late stage percentage recorded over the period 2007-2013.

BLACKS - The percentage of early stage diagnoses varied during the 2007-2013 period. Although the average annual percentages for early stage diagnoses among black females were somewhat lower in more recent years, the differences were not statistically significant at the 95% confidence level. The percentage of late stage diagnoses was slightly higher in recent years among black females, but again the differences were not statistically significant.

BEHAVIORAL RISK FACTORS for Cervical Cancer by Race
Pennsylvania Females Age 18 and Older, 2014

The American Cancer Society recommends that women begin being screened for cervical cancer at the age of 21. Screening should be done every three years with the conventional or liquid-based Pap tests. Beginning at age 30, women should be screened every five years with both the HPV test and the Pap Test, or every three years with the Pap test alone. At age 65, women who have had at least three consecutive negative Pap tests or at least two consecutive negative HPV and Pap tests within the last 10 years (with the most recent test occurring within five years) and women who have had a hysterectomy should discuss being screened for cervical cancer with their health care provider.

EVER HAD A PAP TEST - According to results from the 2014 sample telephone survey conducted by the Department of Health's Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), 90 percent of women aged 18 and older had ever had a Pap test. Ninety-two percent of white (non-Hispanic) female residents and 88 percent of black (non-Hispanic) female residents had been tested.

PAP TEST IN LAST THREE YEARS - Results from the 2014 BRFSS survey showed that 81 percent of Pennsylvania women aged 21-65 had had a Pap test in the past three years. The percentage for both white (non-Hispanic) and black (non-Hispanic) females was 82 percent.

Known health literacy level: 7

HDO220P

NOTES: This pamphlet was produced by the Division of Health Informatics, Pennsylvania Department of Health. The division can be contacted by email at healthinformatics@pa.gov or phone (717-787-2448). For additional cancer statistics, go to www.statistics.health.pa.gov. The department is an equal opportunity provider of grants, contracts, services and employment. Call the department toll free at 1-877-PA-HEALTH. All the age-adjusted rates that appear here were calculated by the direct method using the 2000 United States standard million population. United States incidence rates are based on data collected by the SEER (Surveillance, Epidemiology, and End Results) program of the National Cancer Institute.