PATH

October 2026

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Join PATH at IPVS 2026!

At this week's 38th annual International Papillomavirus Society (IPVS) Conference in Athens, Greece, PATH will share knowledge and data across a range of knowledge and findings related to HPV vaccination.

PATH and the Gates Foundation are co-hosting a reception that celebrates the journey of single-dose HPV vaccination, from evidence to policy to implementation. The event comes on the heels of a meeting of the World Health Organization's (WHO) Strategic Advisory Group of Experts (SAGE) recommending single-dose HPV vaccination as the most efficient strategy for preventing cervical cancer, with an updated WHO position paper forthcoming. Participants will hear about Ethiopia's recent experience with single-dose HPV vaccine introduction and reflect on the achievements, lessons, and experiences of the Single-Dose HPV Vaccine Evaluation Consortium, the global group of experts that for nearly a decade collated and synthesized the growing evidence base for policymakers at global and country levels.

The IPVS Conference will also feature a single-dose HPV immunobridging study of Xiamen Innovax Biotech Co.'s nine-valent HPV vaccine, Cecolin®9, compared to Gardasil®9. An oral presentation will highlight data from a 6-month interim analysis in girls

and women between 9 and 20 years of age following administration of a single dose. This PATH-sponsored study has the potential to advance global access to an additional vaccine that protects against a broad array of HPV strains most likely to cause cervical cancer.

Improving HPV vaccination equity for out-of-school and hard-to-reach girls

Countries across Africa and Asia have made substantial progress in introducing HPV vaccination through national immunization programs. However, experience from these countries demonstrates that current delivery models that leverage school-based vaccination are not sufficient to achieve equitable HPV vaccine coverage. Girls who are out of school or live in hard-to-reach areas can be missed by school-based HPV vaccination programs.

To address these gaps, PATH partnered with ministries of health and national stakeholders to convene multi-day stakeholder consultation to identify current practices, barriers, and strategies for improvement. Based on consultations in Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malawi, and Nigeria, PATH developed an executive summary that highlights common challenges in identifying and enumerating these girls and practical approaches to strengthen data systems, community engagement, and planning. Explore the cross-country findings and related country briefs to learn more.

Understanding the costs of single-dose HPV vaccination in Ethiopia

Cervical cancer is the second most common cancer among women in Ethiopia, with more than 8,000 new cases estimated in 2022. The country introduced HPV vaccines in a two-dose schedule for 14-year-old girls in 2018, then transitioned in 2024 to a single-dose HPV vaccine regimen and conducted a multi-age cohort vaccination campaign targeting girls aged 9 to 14 years. A new PATH brief, developed from a study conducted in collaboration with Ethiopia's Federal Ministry of Health, examines the costs and operational context of delivering HPV vaccine during the campaign. Broadly, the study demonstrated that switching to a single-dose HPV vaccination regimen in a multi-age

cohort resulted in substantial cost savings per fully vaccinated girl, compared to the two-dose regimen administered to a single-age cohort.

World Cancer Congress advances conversations on integrated approaches to cervical cancer

During its flagship conference in September, Union for International Cancer Control (UICC) continued to call for and facilitate integrated vaccination, screening, and treatment approaches to eliminate cervical cancer. Discussions highlighted major challenges such as equity and access gaps, diagnostics tests procurement, financing, multisectoral collaboration, cancer care in conflict and humanitarian settings, and a shortage of health staff for screening and treatment.

PATH's Cathy Ndiaye contributed to discussions on cervical cancer elimination at UICC, highlighting the role of HPV vaccination and strategies to expand access in low- and middle-income countries. She also spotlighted opportunities to integrate HPV vaccination into broader cancer elimination programs. To maintain momentum, UICC called on stakeholders to sign and share the Global Declaration to Eliminate Cervical Cancer, in support of the WHO's Global Strategy to eliminate cervical cancer and championing principles such as sustainability, collaboration, accountability, and equity. The Declaration has more than 20,000 signatures from 151 countries and counting.

NEW LITERATURE, RESOURCES, AND EVENTS

Journal articles

Global policy determinants of national human papillomavirus vaccine introductions in 2006-2025 | *Expert Review of Vaccines*

PATH resources

Web page: Accelerating HPV vaccine access

Article: China expands HPV vaccination

Project Brief: Cost and operational context of a single-dose HPV vaccine regimen administered to a multi-age cohort of adolescent girls in Ethiopia

Executive Summary: Improving equity in HPV vaccination through identification and enumeration of out-of-school and hard-to-reach girls

Country Briefs: Identifying strategies to reach out-of-school girls and those in hard-to-reach areas for HPV vaccination

- in Burkina Faso
- in Ethiopia
- in Kenya
- in Lao PDR
- in Malawi
- in Nigeria

Upcoming events

IPVS 2026
October 22-25, 2026
Athens, Greece

Coalition to Strengthen the HPV Immunization Community Asia Symposium 2026
November 17-18, 2026
Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

International Conference on Public Health
November 23-27, 2026
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Cervical Cancer Awareness Month
January 2027

EUROGIN
February 10-13, 2027
Bologna, Italy

International HPV Awareness Day
March 4, 2027

PATH accelerates evidence-based strategies and technologies, with a focus on the places and people disproportionately impacted by cervical cancer. PATH is a leader in public-sector implementation and research on interventions across the life course, from HPV vaccination to cervical cancer screening and treatment.

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