HPV INFECTIONS AMONG ADOLESCENT POPULATION AND HIGH SCHOOL ROCK CONCERTS FOR EDUCATION OF HUMAN PAPILLOMAVIRUSES

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Background: HPV is one of the most frequent sexually transmitted diseases in the world. Behaviours particularly relevant to HPV transmission are: early age of sexual debut, poor contraceptive/condom use, multiple sexual partners, certain sexual practices and the use of substances such as alcohol and drugs.

Objectives: In period from 2000 to 2006 a survey was conducted on a sample of 380 adolescent and young girls in the Zagreb area and 190 girls in Jastrebarsko. The purpose of the survey was to indicate the difference in HPV types among urban and rural adolescent and young women population. The hypothesis was that HPV infection risk is higher in urban than in rural areas.

Materials and Methods: In the process of epidemiological anamnesis the following elements were analysed: contraception methods used, hygiene habits, smoking of cigarettes, number of sexual partners and the period from the first intercourse to the appearance of cervical dysplasia. With correct and timely application of cytology, colposcopy and targeted biopsy in adolescents with cytological picture of dysplasia, accuracy of the diagnosis is increased, unnecessary conisation is avoided. Cytological tests should be performed at least once a year beginning from the first sexual intercourse regardless of age. The most effective prevention of sexually transmitted diseases is a stable, harmonious relationship, with a faithful partner. A necessary condition prior to the onset of sexual intercourse is a physical and mental maturity of both partners. For systematic prevention in this moment it is necessary: introduce an effective sexual education in schools, develop interdisciplinary cooperation between social and medical sciences. Still the best and most important education comes from a healthy family as the core of our society. We want to do something for that young population with regards to education on Human Papillomavirus so we organized High school rock concerts.

In appropriate assembly rooms of some Grammar and Secondary School of Zagreb during weekend evenings educational lectures held by medical specialist, were given about sexually transmitted diseases, particularly HPV and after the lectures rock concerts were held by some checked out rock groups and others young so-called "demo" group consisting of secondary school students of Zagreb.

Results: Rock concerts after the lecture is some kind of bait for that population to be present at the lecture. In all given lectures the lecture rooms were too small to accept all audience interested in lecture. Booklets explaining in a popular way the sexually transmitted diseases were distributed.

Conclusions: Mass media have excellently marked the whole project with almost everyday information. We continue with this project also in this school year.