



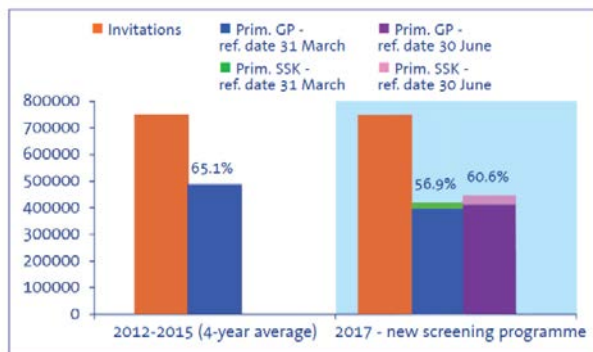
Newsletter Dutch population screening for cervical cancer – November 2018

Results of the first year of the renewed population screening for cervical cancer (data up to March 31st / June 30th)

The renewed population screening for cervical cancer has been running in the Netherlands since January 2017. The national monitor presents the results of 2017 and compares these with the National Cervical Cancer Screening Programme in 2016 and earlier. It has been published recently and has been attached to the e-mail.

Participation

The total participation rate in 2017 was 56.9% (on reference date 31 March 2018). During the period 2012-2015, the average participation rate was 65.1% (figure 1). By 30 June 2018, the participation rate had increased to 60.6% (figure 1).



hrHPV positivity

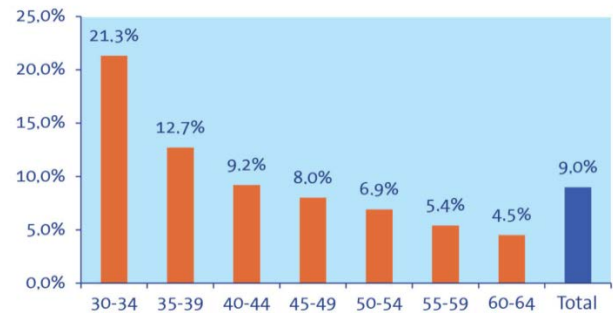
In total, 9% of the participating women had a positive hrHPV test. As expected, the percentage of hrHPV positives is highest in the youngest age group and decreases with age.

HrHPV positivity was higher among participants who opted for the GP smear (9.1%) than among participants who used the self-sampling test (7.4%).

Self-sampling device

In the renewed population screening, participants can order a self-sampling device. Nearly 7% of the

participants used this self-sampling device. 30% of these participants had not previously participated in the population screening, but this percentage includes relatively many 30-year old women who received their first invitation anyway.



Referrals

In 32% of hrHPV positive women, abnormal cells (pap2+ / ASCUS+) were found. This is 3% of the total number of participants, more than 13000 women. They have been referred to the gynaecologist for further research. A CIN2+ was found in more than half of these women (1036 women in 2017 as compared to an average of 630 in the period 2012-2016).

The hrHPV positive women without abnormal cells were recommended to make a smear for a second triage cytology six months after the first one.

Eurogin

Sandra van Dijk, Nynke van der Veen and Wendy Rodenburg will attend Eurogin early december. Despite the fact we have not organized an expert meeting, they hope to see many of you!

2019

Next year, we will evaluate the results and the position of the self sampling device, prepare ourselves for HPV vaccinated women to enter the population screening programme (2023), and reflect on the possibilities to reduce the number of unnecessary referrals.