

# CERVICAL CANCER SCREENING

VOLUME 18

This publication represents the views and expert opinions of an IARC Working Group on the Evaluation of Cancer-Preventive Interventions, which met remotely, 12–16 October 2020

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A Working Group of 27 independent international experts, convened by the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) between June and October 2020, reviewed the scientific evidence and assessed the cancer-preventive and adverse effects of various methods of screening for cervical cancer. Cervical cancer is the fourth most commonly diagnosed cancer type in women worldwide, and the fourth most common cause of cancer death in women.

This publication is an important update of the previous *IARC Handbook* on cervical cancer screening (Volume 10, published in 2005). Volume 18 provides evidence-based evaluations of the effectiveness of five methods of cervical cancer screening in reducing cervical cancer incidence and/or mortality. The Working Group also reviewed the body of evidence and provided conclusive statements on the comparative effectiveness of those screening methods that are established to reduce cervical cancer incidence and/or mortality. In addition, the Working Group provided an updated literature review on the determinants of participation in screening programmes and on emerging techniques, as well as on the different categories of women at differential risk and the surveillance strategies for such women.

