

# Programme de Plaidoyer et mobilisation communautaire pour la vaccination contre le virus du papillome humain (HPV) au Niger

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## La prévalence du HPV au Niger

**Cancer du Col de l'Utérus au Niger : Agissons Maintenant!**

**Classement :** 2<sup>e</sup> cancer après le cancer du sein soit plus de (9%) selon le registre des cancers du Niger de 2021

**Dépistage et Prévention (Rapport OMS, 2021) :**

Seule 1 femme sur 10 (30-49 ans) dépistée en 5 ans

Prévention primaire et secondaire précaire, y compris la couverture vaccinale

## Les étapes de préparation de la stratégie de la stratégie incluront 4 principales activités

Etape d'évaluation des besoins pour le plaidoyer de formation pour la mobilisation sociale, des stratégies de communication et des mécanismes d'évaluation.

### 1. Évaluation des besoins pour le plaidoyer:

- Analyse de la situation et collaboration avec les autorités sanitaires pour obtenir des statistiques fiables sur l'incidence du cancer du col de l'utérus.
- Identification des lacunes dans la sensibilisation et la prévention, y compris les barrières économiques, culturelles et géographiques.
- Consultation des parties prenantes, y compris des réunions avec le ministère de la Santé, des ONG locales et des leaders communautaires.

### 2. Formation pour la mobilisation sociale:

- Formation des leaders communautaires et des professionnels de santé sur la prévention, le dépistage et l'importance de la vaccination contre le HPV.

### 3. Stratégies de communication:

- Développement de messages clés avec l'aide de professionnels de la santé et d'experts en communication.
- Choix des canaux de communication adaptés, comme la radio pour les communautés rurales et les réseaux sociaux pour les jeunes.

### 4. Mécanismes d'évaluation:

- Définition d'indicateurs de succès, notamment l'augmentation de la fréquentation des services de dépistage et l'évolution de la compréhension du cancer du col de l'utérus par la communauté.
- Collecte continue de données et ajustement des stratégies basé sur les évaluations à mi-parcours et finales.

## Résultats Attendus:

Réduction de la prévalence et la qualité des soins



# Advocacy and community mobilization program for vaccination against human papillomavirus (HPV) in Niger.

## POSTER SESSION SUBSAHARAN AFRICA FRANCOPHONE SYMPOSIUM 2023.

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Niger, like many countries, faces challenges related to the prevalence of human papilloma virus (HPV) and its consequences on women's health.

A National Program for the Fight against Non-Communicable Diseases (PNLMNT) and an Expanded Vaccination Program (EPI) exist but no reliable data on HPV vaccination in Niger since 2015.

The only statistics available are data from the World Health Organization (WHO) and the Niger Cancer Registry which is not up to date and the figures do not give overall coverage of the country.

According to 2021 statistics from the Niger Cancer Registry, 391 new cases of cancer are officially recorded on average each year in the country. Cervical cancer ranks second at 9% after breast cancer at 20%.

According to WHO Statistics for 2021, at least 1 in 10 women aged 30 to 49 have been screened for cervical cancer in the last 5 years. Also according to the same statistics, primary and secondary prevention for 2021 vaccination coverage are precarious.

Among the major obstacles in the fight against cervical cancer are, among others, lack of awareness of the disease, late consultations and non-compliance with treatment by patients. The lack of information and exchange platforms should also be noted.

To remedy this, a Cancer Listening and Exchange Center was installed at the National Cancer Center (CNLC) in February 2022. It was created thanks to the support of the World Cancer Organization. Health (WHO), and aims to offer people affected by information and awareness services, as well as a platform for sharing experiences with people who have recovered from the disease.



Faced with this challenge, and in order to further strengthen the efforts of the State and its partners, the Nigerien League for the Fight against Cancer to initiate the establishment of an Advocacy and Community Mobilization Program for vaccination against human papillomavirus (HPV) to eliminate cervical cancer by the year 2024.

The preparation stages will include 4 main activities including needs assessment for advocacy, training for social mobilization, communication strategies and evaluation mechanisms.

### **1. Needs assessment for advocacy will consist of:**

- Situation analysis: Collaborate with health authorities to obtain reliable statistics on the incidence of cervical cancer in Niger. – Identify the geographic regions and population groups most affected.
- Identifying gaps in awareness and prevention: Conduct surveys and focus groups to assess community understanding of cervical cancer. – Determine economic, cultural and geographic barriers to access to screening services.
- Stakeholder consultation: Hold meetings with representatives of the Ministry of Health, local NGOs and community leaders and collect testimonies through interviews with survivors and affected families.

### **2. For the second stage of training for social mobilization, it is precisely:**

Training of community leaders: Organize awareness workshops for village chiefs, religious leaders and teachers and include information on prevention, screening and the importance of HPV vaccination.

Healthcare Professional Training: Facilitate continuing education sessions for healthcare professionals on the latest testing and treatment practices and include modules on sensitive communication and empathy towards patients.

### **3. For the third stage, the Communication Strategies will consist of**

Develop key messages: Involve health professionals and communications experts to formulate simple and understandable key messages and use survivor testimonies to make messages more impactful.

The choice of communication channels

– Use radio to reach rural communities and remote areas. – Use social networks to reach younger generations, by broadcasting educational videos and testimonials on popular platforms.

#### **4. Evaluation mechanisms**

- Definition of success indicators
- Measure: increase in attendance at screening services.

Track changes in community understanding of cervical cancer.

- Continuous data collection
- Establish regular data collection mechanisms to evaluate the effectiveness of campaigns.
- Collaborate with researchers to conduct mid-term and final evaluations.

vs. Readjustment of strategies

Restoring advocacy and social mobilization activities will involve resuming interrupted campaigns.

To ensure the sustainability of advocacy activities, it will be necessary to integrate them into long-term national health strategies.

The evaluation criteria will include vaccination coverage in existing health services in Niger, reduction in HPV prevalence and the quality of awareness campaigns through indicators including the percentage of the target population having received vaccination and the methods data collection.

In conclusion, vaccination against the HPV virus is an essential element in the fight against cervical cancer in Niger.

It is imperative to collaborate with health authorities, international partners and local communities to ensure effective implementation of these public health initiatives to protect the health of Nigerien women.