



# ONLINE PUBLIC HEALTH EDUCATION ON CERVICAL CANCER AUGUST 2024

## INTRODUCTION

Cervical cancer is a significant public health concern worldwide. It is the fourth most common cancer in women, with an estimated 604,000 new cases and 342,000 deaths in 2020, according to the World Health Organization (WHO). The majority of these cases occur in low- and middle-income countries, where access to preventive services, screening, and treatment is often limited. Cervical cancer is primarily caused by persistent infection with high-risk human papillomavirus (HPV) types. Despite being highly preventable through vaccination and early detection via screening programs, cervical cancer continues to cause substantial morbidity and mortality.

## RATIONALE

**Prevalence and Impact:** Given the high incidence and mortality rates associated with cervical cancer, especially in underserved populations, there is an urgent need to enhance public awareness and education

and education. An online public health session can reach a broad audience, providing critical information on prevention, early detection, and treatment options.

**Prevention and Early Detection:** Cervical cancer is one of the few cancers that can be prevented through vaccination against HPV and early detection through regular screening (e.g., Pap smears and HPV testing). Educating the public about these preventive measures can significantly reduce the incidence and mortality of cervical cancer.

**Addressing Disparities:** In many low- and middle-income countries, barriers such as lack of access to healthcare, cultural stigmas, and misinformation hinder effective cervical cancer prevention and treatment. An online session can address these barriers by providing accurate information and dispelling myths, thus empowering women to seek necessary medical services.

**Cost-Effectiveness:** Online

sessions are a cost-effective way to disseminate information to a large audience. They eliminate geographical barriers, allowing participation from remote and underserved areas, which is crucial for populations that might otherwise have limited access to healthcare education.

### **Community Engagement:**

Engaging the community through online platforms can foster a sense of involvement and responsibility in health promotion activities. This can lead to greater community participation in cervical cancer prevention programs, thereby improving public health outcomes.

**Support for Healthcare Professionals:** Online sessions also serve as a valuable resource for healthcare professionals by providing updated information on best practices for cervical cancer prevention, screening, and management. This, in turn, enhances the quality of care provided to patients.

**Global Health Goals:** Conducting online sessions aligns with global health initiatives, such as the WHO's Global Strategy to Accelerate the Elimination of Cervical Cancer. This strategy aims to reduce cervical cancer cases by 70% by 2030 through comprehensive vaccination, screening, and treatment programs.

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## **EXPECTED OUTCOME**

Participants will understand the basics concept on cervical cancer including prevalence and magnitude, natural history, causes, risk factors, symptoms, and treatment modalities

Participants will understand and adopt preventive measures to reduce the risk of cervical cancer, including receiving the HPV vaccine and encouraging others to do the same.

Participants will be motivated to undergo regular screenings, understand the screening process, and know where and how to access these services.

## **SESSION TITLES**

### **Increase Awareness and Knowledge:**

Educate participants about cervical cancer: Natural history, causes, risk factors, symptoms, and the importance -early detection and screening, treatment modalities for precancerous and malignant lesions.

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**Promote Preventive Measures:**

Inform participants about preventive strategies for cervical cancer: HPV vaccination, safe sexual practices, and lifestyle modifications

**Enhance Screening and Early Detection Efforts:**

Encourage regular cervical cancer screening and provide information on available screening programs and guidelines

**SESSION AUDIENCE**

**General Public:** Educate the wider community about cervical cancer prevention, symptoms, and treatments.

**Women of Reproductive Age:**

Focus on those who are at higher risk for cervical cancer.

**Healthcare Professionals:**

Nurses, midwives, general practitioners, and other healthcare providers to enhance their knowledge and ability to educate their patients.

**Health Educators and Advocates:**

Individuals and organizations involved in health education and promotion.

**Policy Makers and Public Health Officials:**

To influence policy and resource allocation for cervical cancer screening and prevention programs.

**Community Leaders:**

To help disseminate information and mobilize community support for cervical cancer initiatives.

**High School and College Students:**

Particularly those in health-related programs, to raise awareness early and promote preventive measures.

**Survivors and Patients:**

To provide support, share experiences, and inform others.

**NGOs and Non-Profit Organizations:**

Involved in health advocacy and cancer prevention programs.

**Men:**

To educate them on the importance of supporting women in their lives regarding cervical health and cancer prevention.

## DETAILS

Date: 10 August 2024

Day : Saturday

Time: 07:00pm to 10:00pm

Venue: Google Meet Platform

## PRESENTERS

### **Dr. Bayo S. Nade**

MD,MMED, Obstetrician and Gynaecologist at St. Joseph's Mission Hospital Peramiho

### **Mr. Japhet George**

A holder of masters in Midwifery, working at Kilimanjaro Christian Medical Centre [KCMC]

### **Mr. Ramadhani Mwita**

Assistant Nursing Officer at Muhimbili National Hospital and also BScN Candidate at Agha kan University.

## MODERATORS

### **Mr. Mosses Evaristo**

A holder of Bachelor of Science in Nursing Education, Nurse tutor at St. Joseph's Mission Hospital.

### **Dr. Godlove Mlay**

A holder of Bachelor of Medicine and Intern Doctor at St. Joseph's Mission Hospital Peramiho.

### **Mr. Joachim Kilasi**

A holder of Bachelor of Science in Nursing, Nursing officer at St. Joseph's Mission Hospital.