

ABSTRACT

This paper examines new ways of preventing cervical cancer. It adopts theoretical as well as empirical approach and is accordingly divided into two sections.

The theoretical section provides a brief introduction to the anatomy and physiology of the uterus (Chapter 1.1) and then focuses on the disease itself (Chapter 1.2). The first three subchapters consider the disease incidence, the risk factors and the symptoms. The diagnostics are discussed in the fourth subchapter, which also provides a detailed description of Pap smear testing. Available treatments, currently consisting mainly of a surgical intervention, are examined in the subchapter on therapy. Lastly, the paper discusses ways of preventing cervical cancer, such as preventive gynecological exams and newly introduced vaccination against human papillomavirus (HPV); Silgard and Cervavix vaccines are examined in detail.

The empirical section evaluates a questionnaire-based survey performed in a private gynecological practice. The aim of the survey was to map the awareness of cervical cancer preventive measures, especially the vaccine option, amongst different age groups of women and establish whether they are having their preventive gynecological tests done.