

# **Council of Experts "Federal clinical guidelines for the preventative vaccination against diseases caused by human papillomavirus"**

*On 31 October 2015, based on the Health Science Center Children (Moscow), there was held a Board of Experts on the development of guidelines for the preventative vaccination against diseases caused by the human papillomavirus.*

The meeting was attended by the Head Independent Experts of the Russian Federation Ministry of Healthcare in pediatrics (Academician of the RAS A.A. Baranov), in epidemiology (Academician of the RAS N.I. Briko), in infectious diseases in children (Academician of the RAS Y.V. Lobzin), pediatric oncology (V.G. Polyakov), allergy and immunology (corresponding member of the RAS, professor L.S. Namazova-Baranova), in child and adolescent gynecology (Professor E.V. Uvarova), as well as representatives of the leading institutions of the country — Scientific Research Institute of children's infections FMBA of Russia (Professor S.M. Harit), the Scientific Center of Children's Health (professor V.K. Tatochenko), Scientific Research Institute of Vaccines and Serums (professor M.P. Kostinov), the Moscow Regional Institute of Obstetrics and Gynecology (Professor. N.V. Zarochentseva), Guild of Experts in STI (Professor M.A. Gomberg) and representatives of the regions with the experience of the implementation of vaccination programs against human papillomavirus (Professor L.D. Belotserkovtseva, K.A. Thapa, D.V. Donskoy).

Academician of the RAS A.A. Baranov opened the Council of Experts, noting that the strategic direction of development of modern healthcare in the Russian Federation is the prevention and diagnosis of diseases in early stages. Primary prevention (vaccination) is recognized worldwide as the most effective, safe and economical means of preventing infectious diseases: more than 20 diseases that produce serious damage to human health, can be prevented with vaccines. This also applies to a range of cancer and other diseases caused by papillomavirus infection. Professor L.S. Namazova-Baranova added that, despite the fact that vaccination against human papilloma virus (HPV) is currently still not included in the National Calendar of vaccinations of Russia, there is a need for clinical recommendations on prevention of diseases caused by HPV, which would represent objective information about the HPV infection, its consequences, as well as recommendations to practicing physicians on features and application of vaccines registered in Russia against human papillomavirus infection.

Academician N.I. Briko focused on epidemiological features and noted, that, at the present day, about 12% of the world's population are infected with the virus, and the epidemic of HPV infection can be described as global. He noted that vaccination against the infection is not included in the National Calendar of vaccinations of Russia even on epidemiological indications, although it is recommended by experts of the World Health Organization for all the countries of the world as one of the top-priority. Academician noted, that prevention of HPV infection should be included in the second part of the National Calendar of vaccinations.

Academician Y.V. Lobzin noted that the variety of diseases, caused by HPV in both men and women, and the features of the organization of vaccination process dictate the need for a multidisciplinary approach to solving the problem, as evidenced by participation of the experts in various fields of medicine in the Council. The reports of Academician V.G. Polyakov and Professor E.V. Uvarova were focused on the consequences of HPV infection in oncological and gynecological practice. The rapid growth and "youthification" of cervical cancer in Russia proves the need to implement urgent measures to combat the spread of HPV infection. Every year more than 15 thousand women in the Russian Federation hear the diagnosis "Cervical cancer", about 50% of them die in the coming years. In women under 30 years of age, cervical cancer is on the top of the structure of oncological diseases of reproductive organs. Peculiarities of modern sexual behavior of teenagers and unformed genital epithelium contribute to the rapid penetration of the virus into deep tissues and lead to precancerous lesions. Surgical treatment of these lesions can lead

to a negative impact on the reproductive function in young women, which negatively affects the demographic potential of our country.

Professor S.M. Harit highlighted the recommendations of the experts of the World Health Organization on vaccines against HPV, considering the features of application of each of the vaccines. Both vaccines, registered in the Russia, can significantly reduce the risk of developing of precancerous lesions and cancer of genitals in women. Furthermore, quadrivalent vaccine, which is intended to be used among females and males, allows preventing the risk of anorectal warts and dysplasia development, as well as precancerous lesions and cancer of the anal region.

Professor M.A. Gomberg emphasized the importance of vaccinating boys against HPV. It is known, that HPV is transmitted mostly through sexual contact and men are one of the links in the epidemic process. In addition, a huge number of HPV-associated diseases in male are recorded annually in the world: penile cancer, cancer of the anal region, oropharyngeal cancer and cervical condyloma. Ethical aspects of the vaccination only for women are being reviewed, and, at present, several countries have already included HPV vaccination of boys in national vaccination calendars. Professor N.V. Zarochentseva reported the results of the HPV vaccination campaign in the Moscow region. In this region, for the first time in Russia, the effectiveness of the vaccination campaign with quadrivalent vaccine, aimed to reduce the incidence of cervical condyloma (by 42%), has been assessed; large material on safety of the vaccines against HPV has been accumulated. Professor L.D. Belotserkovtseva told about the future prospects of the HPV vaccination program in the Khanty-Mansiysk region. It is the only region in Russia, which discusses the inclusion of boys in the regional vaccination campaign, and the place, where electronic HPV Register is going to be implemented for further evaluation of the effectiveness of the campaign.

In conclusion, the experts decided to:

- adopt and publish clinical guidelines for preventative vaccination against diseases caused by HPV;
- raise the question of the inclusion human papillomavirus infection in the second part of the National Calendar on epidemiological indications in 2016;
- use the experience of Russian regions in vaccination campaigns against HPV and raise the issue of enhancing the record of HPV-associated diseases for the further justification of mass vaccination against HPV in the Russian Federation;
- continue educational work in order to raise the awareness of the problem of HPV infection and its consequences among the medical community and the country population.