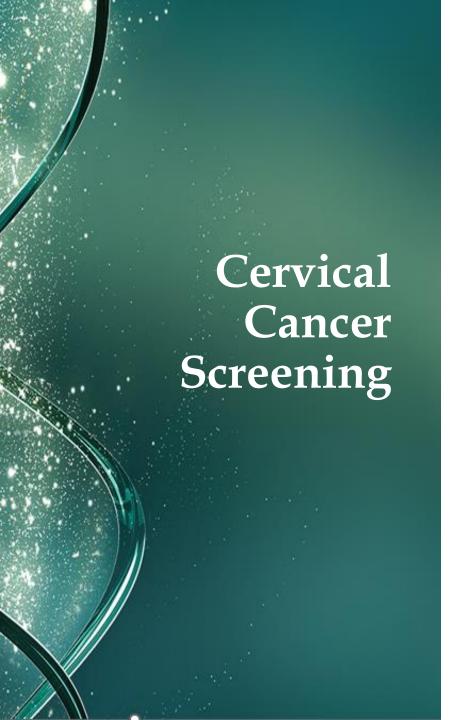




I have nothing to declare



- ☐ Today, HPV-based screening is the preferred strategy for cervical cancer prevention, commonly recommended for women > 30 years of age
- ☐ Yet, it is still debated how to best screen young women below 30 years of age:
 - high prevalence of HPV-infections (30% < 30 yrs.)
 - high prevalence of CIN2, most cases regress
 - need to minimize the harms of overdiagnosis
- ☐ Several countries still recommend cytology as the preferred technology for this subgroup



- ☐ Age-dependent sensitivity for cervical cancer
 - Only 20 50% for women below 40 years of age
- ☐ Limited reproducibility, naked eye evaluation
- ☐ More than 50% of cervical cancers might be missed by cytology
 - Increased incidence of adenocarcinomas not diagnosed by cytology
- ☐ Research on how to further improve cytology readings seem quite limited



- ☐ Despite a well-established cervical cancer (CC) screening program, the incidence of CC in young women is increasing, peaking at 35 years of age
- □ 25% of all women diagnosed with CC had normal cytology readings within 3 years prior to their diagnosis
- ☐ The need to further improve screening to reduce cancer missed by cytology is paramount
- ☐ Co-testing cytology normal women with a 3-type HPV mRNA (16-18-45) test might be an alternative to improve safety, balancing benefits and harms of HPV-testing young women



- ☐ Not all HPV types carry equal risk of cervical disease
- ☐ HPV 16, 18 and 45 are aggressive types known to cause a more rapid development of severe lesions, even if cytology is negative at baseline
- ☐ HPV 16, 18 and 45 are associated with
 - > 75% of all cervical cancer cases worldwide
 - > 90% of all cases in young women < 40 yrs.
- ☐ HPV 16, 18 and 45 are strongly linked to adenocarcinomas (> 94%), a known challenge for cytology readings
- ☐ mRNA detection reveals ongoing oncogene activity, not just viral presence, reducing detection of transient HPV-infections

STUDY: Impact of HPV mRNA types 16, 18 and 45 detection on the risk of CIN3+ in young women with normal cervical cytology*

Primary Cytology Screening (Control)

☐ Women 25-39 years of age attending routine cytology screening (2014-2017) at Nordlandssykehuset, North Norway

HPV mRNA testing (Intervention)

- ☐ Women 25-39 yrs. with **NILM** cytology & **HPV mRNA test** (PreTect SEE; 16, 18, 45)
- ☐ Rescreening of index cyt. for all mRNA+ cases

Study endpoint

- ☐ Histologically confirmed CIN3+
- ☐ Follow-up: December 2021 (5 7 yrs.)

*Data published





Study Objectives

- ☐ Investigate the detection rate of CIN3+ in women 25-39 yrs. attending routine cytology screening
 - Control group: Women screened by cytology only
 - **Intervention group**: Women screened with normal cytology & tested with a 3-type HPV mRNA test
- ☐ Evaluate the impact of HPV mRNA 16, 18, 45 expression in cytology negative women on the 5-year risk of CIN3+

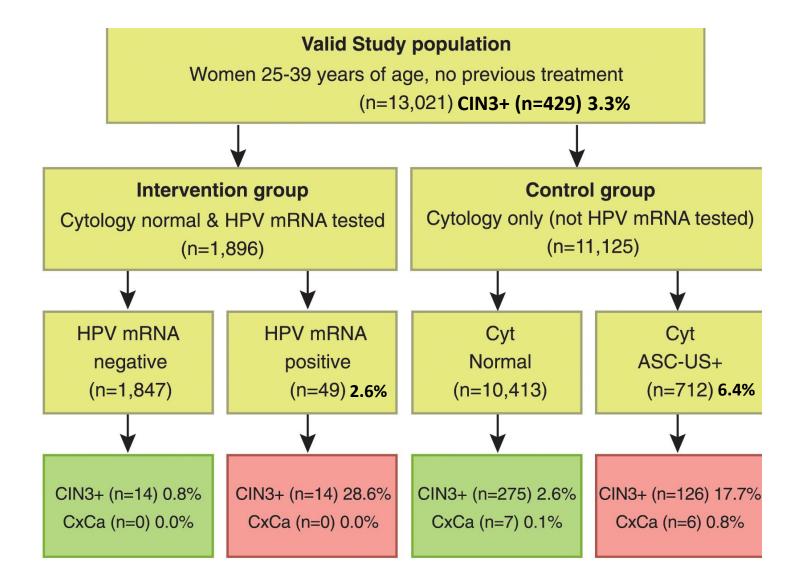
Selection Study population

Women 25-69 years of age (n=41,007)Subpopulation Women 25-39 years of age (n=13,914) **Excluded** Treated for CIN2+(N=242) Invalid index cytology (n=651) Valid Study population Women 25-39 years of age, no previous treatment (n=13,021)Intervention group **Control group** Cytology only (not HPV mRNA tested) Cytology normal & HPV mRNA tested (n=11,125)(n=1,896)

Cytology screening population (2014-2017)

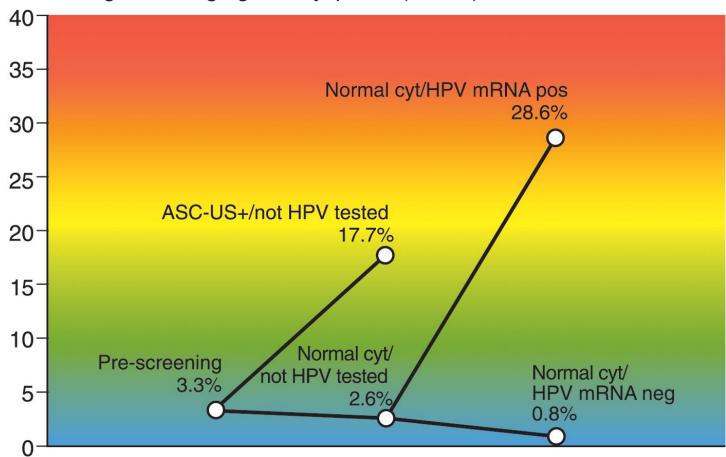


Results 1. Positivity rates & CIN3+ prevalence

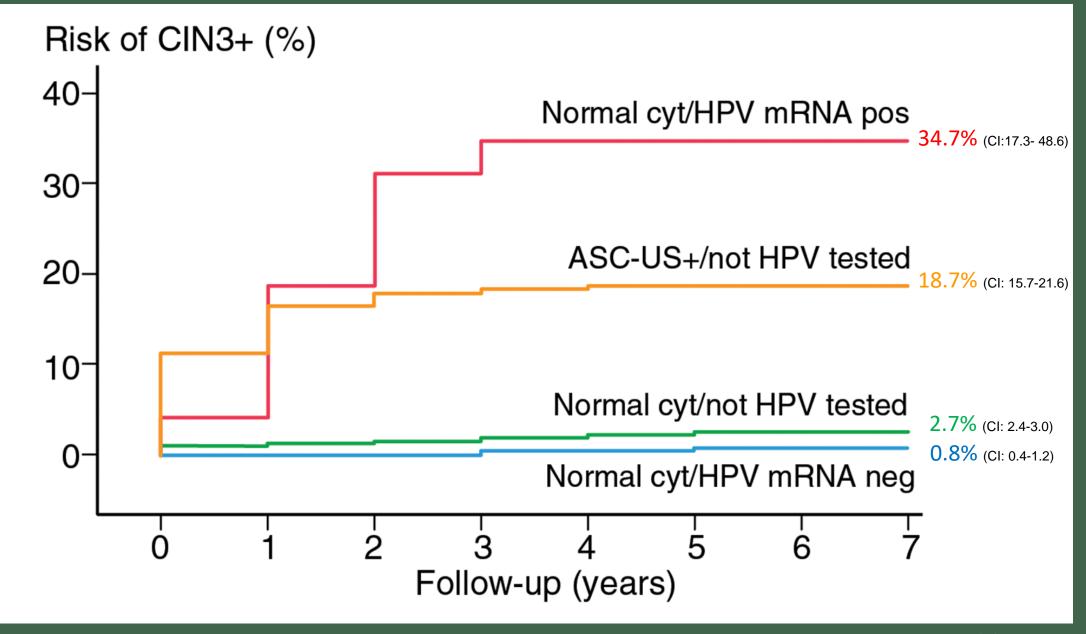


Results 2. Risk of CIN3+ In Controlversus Intervention group





Results 3. Cumulative incidence ratios (CIR) for CIN3+ in 5-7 years follow-up



Results 4. Cervical Cancer characteristics

- ☐ The risk of cervical cancer in women 25-39 years old screened by cytology
 - 14.3 per 100,000 women per year
- ☐ The risk of cervical cancer in women 25-39 yrs. with normal cytology at baseline
 - 9.6 per 100,000 women per year

Control group:

- ☐ 13 cases of invasive cervical cancer
- ☐ 7 cases had normal cytology at baseline
 - 5/7 adenocarcinoma (ADC)
 - 2/7 squamous cell carcinoma (SCC)
- ☐ 6 cases had abnormal cytology at baseline
 - 6/6 squamous cell carcinoma (SCC)

Intervention group:

☐ None of the women developed cervical cancer within 5-years follow-up

Study Conclusions PLoS ONE 17(11): e0275858. https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0275858

- ☐ Cytology screening of young women has limitations and miss lesions that need to be treated
- ☐ Rescreening only 2.6% of the cytology normal smears for **HPV mRNA+** women, revealed missed abnormalities in 53.1% of the cases
- ☐ HPV mRNA 16, 18, 45 positive women have high 5-year CIN3+ risk (34.7%), despite normal cytology
- ☐ Co-test negative women (Cyt-/HPV mRNA-) have very low risk of CIN3+ (0.8%)
- ☐ A 3-type mRNA test might be a highly relevant biomarker for the identification of women at higher risk, improving safety for young women screened by cytology



Thank you for your attention!