

THE TIMES OF INDIA

Study shows effectiveness of digene HPV test

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Test to detect cervical cancer with 96 pc accuracy

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Pune: City-based diagnosis and treatment company, AyuGen Biosciences, has introduced 'Digene-Human Papilloma Virus (HPV)' test for early detection of cervical cancer, having an accuracy rate of 94-96 per cent in comparison to the conventional methods of testing.

AyuGen, a genome-based disease identification private firm is incubated and funded by Science and Technology Park (STP), Pune.

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DETAILS OF THE TEST

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Cervical cancer starts in the cervix, the lower part of the uterus (womb) that opens at the top of the vagina. All cervical cancers are caused by the HPV.

"There are 150 kinds of HPV identified till date.

They can broadly be classified as low risk, probable high risk and high risk HPV types. The immune system overcomes the infection in majority of cases.

"Cervical cancer develops when the virus is not cleared and when the infec-

tion persists. In India, every day 200 women die of this disease and about 400 new cases are identified," Director and CEO of AyuGen, Manish Pungliya, said.

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"False negative and false positive results are higher in other screening methods. Our test has a very high sensitivity than other screening tests available in the market today. It is cost effective. Negative test result helps in reducing screening frequency (once in three to five years). It has a high negative predictive value with 99.7 per cent certainty," Pungliya said.

According to Rajendra Jagdale, Director, STP

Pune, eventually, it is being planned that the tests are made accessible and available for women by working with the government, NGOs and public health specialists.

The efficacy of this technology has been shown in a recent study conducted by the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology of Shrimati Kashibai Navale Medical College, Pune and AyuGen.

In this study, it was found that out of 288 symptomatic patients, about seven per cent were HPV positive women, with 60 per cent of them found to be in the last phase of pre-cancerous stage. This was missed in PAP smear test used conventionally for the HPV screening.

The Indian EXPRESS

Digene HPV test helps identify high-risk women for cervical cancer

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Sakal Times

Vaccination, 'digene HPV test' suggested

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Pune: To fight the cervical cancer-the number one cancer among Indian women, oncologists and gynecologists have recommended vaccination and the newly introduced diagnostic test 'digene HPV test'. Launched recently by AyuGen Biosci-

ences, this test helps in early detection of cervical pre-cancers with which women have maximum chance of getting rid of the disease.

Gynaecologist Dr Milind Dugad said, "Cervical cancer is caused by sexually transmitted 'Human Papilloma Vi-

rus' (HPV) in women above the age of 30. Four in every five women suffering from cancer have cervical cancer.

When immunity is strong, the virus gets removed from the body without any harm. However, when it persists, it causes abnormal changes

in cervix." Using VIA (visual inspection with acetic acid) and Papanicolaou test (PAP), gynaecologists examine the cervix.

Globally, there are around 5 lakh new cases and 2.74 lakh deaths annually. In India, there are over 74,000 reported deaths annually.

Every second woman gets exposed to the virus.

CERVICAL CANCER