Cervical Cancer Screening and Treatment

Cervical cancer is one of the leading causes of death for women in the developing world.

MCDI, a U.S. non-profit organization that works to build the capacities of health systems throughout the world, is currently working in Myanmar and Equatorial Guinea to screen, treat and prevent cervical cancer through cost-effective interventions.

Myanmar
The highest cause of cancer deaths for women in Myanmar is cervical cancer. Through MCDI’s cervical cancer screening and treatment project, health providers have been trained in VIA and cold coagulation to provide mass screening and treatment to women aged 30 to 49 years old. Since MCDI’s project began in 2016, over 1,800 women have been screened and 63 health providers have been trained.

Equatorial Guinea
Equatorial Guinea faces the third highest incidence rate of cervical cancer in Africa. MCDI, through funding from Noble Energy, aims to reduce this prevalence rate by using screening with treatment in Cervical Cancer Screening Corners in hospitals in Malabo and Bata. MCDI is training health workers to implement these interventions across the country.

“Screen-and-Treat”
MCDI uses a one-visit “screen-and-treat” approach for our cervical cancer programs. This is the key to the 70% or higher reduction rate in industrialized nations, and is critical to reducing the burden of cervical cancer in low-resource countries.

Visual Inspection of cervical lesions using acetic acid (VIA) allows for reliable detection of most precancerous lesions. For VIA-positive cases, the use of Cold Coagulation therapy at an early stage prevents the progression of cancerous lesions. Patients that are detected with cervical cancer lesions are referred to specialized gynecological services for follow-up and treatment.

MCDI also uses mobile phones in the screening and treatment process. Enhanced Visual Assessment through MobileODT gives the provider a more powerful visual examination in which the patient’s data can be recorded and the image of the cervix after VIA can be captured for record keeping.

To learn more about MCDI, please visit www.mcdinternational.org
8401 Colesville Road, Suite 425, Silver Spring, MD 20910, USA
301-562-1920 | mcdi@mcd.org
Program Contact: Luis Tam, MD, DrPH
Chief Program Officer - ltam@mcd.org