

**Symposium on Cervical Cancer Screening and Management of Cervical Abnormalities in Adolescents and Young Women**

Most major professional societies recently revised recommendations designed to reduce adverse outcomes associated with the over-screening and excessive intervention for HPV-associated conditions in adolescents and young women. Many practicing clinicians, however, have been hesitant to modify their approach to cervical cancer prevention for this age group. This symposium is being held in order to highlight current cervical cancer screening and management recommendations for adolescents and young women as well as to provide a comprehensive and compelling argument for the differences in recommendations based on age. The symposium is under the direction of the Practice Improvement in Cervical Screening and Management (PICSM) committee, under the sponsorship of the American Society for Colposcopy and Cervical Pathology (ASCCP) and in partnership with the American Cancer Society (ACS). Symposium Chairs are Dr. Anna-Barbara Moscicki of the University of California-San Francisco and co-chaired by Dr. J. Thomas Cox, President of the ASCCP and with the University of California-Santa Barbara.

The primary goal of this symposium is to review the data supporting current screening and management recommendations for adolescents and young women and to develop a communication strategy to promote dissemination and better adoption of current recommendations. We plan to achieve this by bringing together approximately 40-50 experts in the fields of adolescent medicine, cervical cancer prevention, and treatment of HPV-associated conditions of the cervix and vulva. These individuals are uniquely qualified to identify areas where more information and research is needed both to strengthen support of current guidelines, as well as to facilitate future revisions of screening and management guidelines as needed. A key area that they will examine will be the expected impact of HPV vaccination.

It is expected that the findings from the symposium will be published both as meeting reports in peer-reviewed journals as well as in a symposium proceedings that will be published as a journal supplement. Additional approaches for disseminating the symposium proceedings will be determined at the symposium and potentially include roundtable discussions in various formats, development of a web-site, and webinars.

## ***Adolescent Symposium***

We asked the professional societies and healthcare agencies directly involved in cervical cancer screening of adolescents and young women in the U.S. to send two or three representatives to the symposium. The majority of invitees have representatives attending. We look forward to a fruitful symposium and to provision of meaningful guidance to the membership of all participating societies and agencies, and to the broader medical community.