Depth of necrosis using different ablation techniques in healthy cervical tissue

> Miriam Cremer, MD, MPH Associate Professor Cleveland Clinic Department of OB/GYN Cleveland, OH, USA









- Merck Speakers Bureau
- Employee of Basic Health International
- No financial relationship with WISAP or CryoPen<sup>®</sup>





# Background: Global Cervical Cancer Burden

- Fourth most common cancer affecting women worldwide
- >528,000 new cases diagnosed every year
- >265,000 cervical cancer deaths in 2012
- 90% of deaths occur in low- resource settings
- Cervical pre-cancer can be detected and treated







# Cryotherapy Challenges in the Field

- Typically performed using 50-70 kg CO<sub>2</sub> or NO<sub>2</sub> gas tanks
- A 5ft. tank may only treat 10-20 patients
- Procuring and transporting gas is expensive and potentially dangerous







# Potential Solutions in LMICs

 CryoPen<sup>®</sup> Cryosurgical System overcomes the cost, gas procurement, portability, and efficacy issues of traditional cryotherapy



 Thermocoagulation (WISAP) Inexpensive, runs on electricity, can be used by both high-and mid-level healthcare providers







# New Thermoablation Devices: Liger and WiSAP





#### WiSAP Thermoablator

Liger Thermoablator





# Depth of Necrosis Study

- The goal of the clinical efficacy study is to describe the depth of tissue necrosis in women without cervical pathology
- Women undergoing hysterectomy for indications other than cervical pathology were recruited for the study
- Post-hysterectomy the depth of tissue necrosis was measured
- What is the goal of depth of necrosis?





## Depth of Necrosis Tissue Example







# Five-Arm Study (n=125 women)

- Single application of CO<sub>2</sub>-based cryotherapy (5 minute freeze)
- Double application of CO<sub>2</sub>-based cryotherapy (3 minute freeze, 5 minute thaw, 3 minute freeze)
- Single application of CryoPen<sup>®</sup> (5 minute freeze)
- Double application of CryoPen<sup>®</sup> (3 minute freeze, 5 minute thaw, 3 minute freeze)
- Single application of thermocoagulation at 120° C for 40 seconds





## Before and After CryoPen<sup>®</sup> Single Freeze







#### Selected characteristics of participants by treatment arm

|                   | n  | Range | Mean (SD)  |
|-------------------|----|-------|------------|
| Age               |    |       |            |
| CO2 double        | 26 | 30-64 | 45.5 (7.5) |
| CO2 single        | 26 | 32-58 | 45.5 (7.0) |
| CryoPen double    | 24 | 31-56 | 44.8 (5.9) |
| CryoPen single    | 26 | 38-62 | 44.7 (5.7) |
| Thermocoagulation | 23 | 27-57 | 45.3 (6.7) |
| Parity            |    |       |            |
| CO2 double        | 25 | 0-7   | 1.6 (2.0)  |
| CO2 single        | 26 | 0-7   | 2.0 (1.7)  |
| CryoPen double    | 24 | 0-6   | 2.3 (1.5)  |
| CryoPen single    | 24 | 0-4   | 1.6 (1.5)  |
| Thermocoagulation | 23 | 0-5   | 1.4 (1.4)  |
| Pain              |    |       |            |
| CO2 double        | 26 | 0-4   | 2.2 (1.0)  |
| CO2 single        | 26 | 0-3   | 1.8 (0.8)  |
| CryoPen double    | 24 | 1-8   | 2.6 (1.4)  |
| CryoPen single    | 26 | 0-6   | 2.5 (1.4)  |
| Thermocoagulation | 23 | 1-8   | 3.3 (1.8)  |







## Reported Pain Severity by Treatment Method







### Depth of necrosis (mm) by treatment arm, stratified by lip

|                   | n  | range    | Mean (SD) | Mean difference (95% CI) | Fail to meet 3.5mm benchmark (%) |
|-------------------|----|----------|-----------|--------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Anterior Lip      |    |          |           |                          |                                  |
| CO2 double        | 26 | 2.8-12.4 | 5.3 (1.7) | Ref.                     | 2 (7.7)                          |
| CO2 single        | 25 | 0-10.5   | 4.9 (2.0) | 0.44 (-0.62, 1.50)       | 5 (19.2)                         |
| CryoPen double    | 24 | 1-7.1    | 4.4 (1.3) | 0.94 (0.56, 1.83)        | 5 (20.8)                         |
| CryoPen single    | 26 | 2.6-10   | 5.0 (1.6) | 0.34 (-0.60, 1.28)       | 4 (15.4)                         |
| Thermocoagulation | 23 | 3.0-6.0  | 4.2 (0.8) | 1.06 (0.27, 1.86)        | 2 (8.7)                          |
| Posterior Lip     |    |          |           |                          |                                  |
| CO2 double        | 26 | 3.5-8.5  | 5.6 (1.3) | Ref.                     | 0 (0.0)                          |
| CO2 single        | 25 | 1.8-10   | 4.8 (1.8) | 0.82 (-0.07, 1.72)       | 6 (23.1)                         |
| CryoPen double    | 24 | 2.1-7.5  | 4.5 (1.2) | 1.03 (0.31, 1.76)        | 4 (17.0)                         |
| CryoPen single    | 26 | 2.2-7    | 4.8 (1.2) | 0.81 (0.11, 1.52)        | 2 (7.7)                          |
| Thermocoagulation | 23 | 3.0-6    | 3.9 (0.8) | 1.63 (1.00, 2.27)        | 6(26.1)                          |

Non-inferiority was considered if the 95% CI for the mean difference did not cross the non-inferiority margin of 0.8 mm.





### Depth (mm) of the anterior lip by different ablation techniques



Depth (mm) of the anterior lip by different ablation techniques





### Depth (mm) of the posterior lip by different ablation techniques

#### Depth (mm) of the posterior lip by different ablation techniques







# Tangible Benefits of LMIC-adapted CryoPen®

"Usually for a period of 2 months we use 3 tanks of N20 for \$280 (USD) each. Since we started using CryoPen<sup>®</sup> at Manitane in June 2015, we keep one tank full just in case. So that means from June 2015 to April 2016 (11 months) we have saved \$4620 (USD)."

-Dr. Marc Augustin, Medical Director of Fondation St. Luc, Haiti





# Conclusion

- Alternative treatment to gas-based cryotherapy are being developed and are commercially available for purchase
- Bench testing and depth of necrosis show that these are not inferior to standard cryotherapy
- Moderate pain is higher with thermoablation but remains tolerable to patients
- A randomized trial comparing CryoPen<sup>®</sup> to WiSAP thermoablation and CO<sub>2</sub> cryotherapy is currently underway
- Cost effectiveness of these methods are also being investigated





## Thank You!

# Questions?



