The Fight Against HPV and Cervical Cancer: A Case Study in Zambezia, Mozambique

Suzanna Kelley
Worcester Polytechnic Institute

Caitlin Quinn

Rachel Winsten

Yichao Xu

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BACKGROUND

**For Cervical Cancer and HPV**
- Cervical cancer is a disease in which cancer cells are found in the tissues of the cervix (the opening of the uterus).
- 70% of cervical cancer is caused by two strands of HPV-16 & 18.
- Gardasil, the HPV vaccine created by Merck in June 2006, protects against HPV types 6, 11, 16 & 18.

**Mozambique’s current situation**
- Current population: 20.5 Million
- 70% of the population lives in a rural setting
- Only 3 physicians for every 100,000 people
- 54% of the population lives below poverty level
- 58% of women have cancer
- Cervical cancer is the most prominent cancer
- No National health care plan

**Analysis**
- Evaluations will be conducted after completion of our initial trip and each following booster distribution.
- A success would allow us to implement the project through all of Mozambique and, eventually, Africa, in our effort to heal the world.

**References**

SOLUTION AND PLAN

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**Clinics and Physicians**
- We will use clinics set up in Zambezia as a base for traveling doctors.
- Medical School students and local volunteers will travel with members of Doctors Without Borders to help distribute the vaccine.

**Funds**
- Grants and donations will cover the expenses of travel, basic necessities, and other supplies.
- Grants from PEFPAR are available for use to support STD programs in Africa.
- Donations from general public.

**Transportation**
- Car donations have been requested from:
  - Toyota
  - General Motors and
  - Ford Lincoln and Mercury.
- These donations will be used by our doctors to deliver Gardasil throughout Zambezia.

**Education**
- PEFPAR community programs already in place will be used to educate the children in Mozambique on:
  - The dangers of cervical cancer
  - The need for prevention of cervical cancer
  - Gardasil and
  - The importance of compliance.

**Others**
- Merck will donate Gardasil for all females ages 9 to 26.
- The Family Care Foundation in Mozambique will provide sanitization supplies and syringes to our doctors.