

HPV31 and HPV33 incidence in cervical samples from women in Recife, Brazil

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ABSTRACT. Human papillomavirus (HPV) has been extensively studied concerning genomic structure, infection mechanisms, and diversity of types, as well as disease progression stages and development of vaccines. HPV type prevalence can differ in specific populations in different countries, according to ethnicity. This is the first report of an integrated project to evaluate the incidence of HPV types in different regions in Brazil in order to obtain data for vaccine development. Cervical samples were collected from women seen at a public hospital in Pernambuco, Northeast Brazil, for routine evaluation of genital alterations. Selection of the patients was random. There was a strong prevalence of HPV16 and a high incidence of HPV types 31 and 33. These

data foster the discussion about the need to evaluate viral prevalence in each geographic region in order to develop targeted vaccine programs.

Key words: Human papillomavirus; Cervical cancer; Genotyping; Prophylactic vaccines