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JOINT EVENT

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No association between HPV vaccine and reported post-vaccination symptoms in Japanese young women: Results of the Nagoya study

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Magoya City introduced free HPV vaccination in 2010 and in April 2013 the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare included the HPV vaccine in the National Immunization Program. However, in June 2013, the Ministry suspended proactive recommendation of the vaccine after unconfirmed reports of adverse events. To investigate any potential association between the vaccine and reported symptoms, Nagoya City conducted a questionnaire based survey. Participants were 71,177 female residents of Nagoya City born between April 2, 1994 and April 1, 2001. The anonymous postal questionnaire investigated the onset of 24 symptoms (primary outcome), associated hospital visits, frequency, and influence of school attendance. Totally, 29,846 residents responded. No significant increase in occurrence of any of the 24 reported post-HPV vaccination symptoms was found. The vaccine was associated with increased age-adjusted odds of hospital visits for abnormal amount of menstrual bleeding (OR: 1.43, 95% CI: 1.13–1.82), irregular menstruation (OR: 1.29, 95% CI: 1.12–1.49), severe headaches (OR: 1.19, 95% CI: 1.02–1.39), and chronic, persisting abnormal amount of menstrual bleeding (OR 1.41, 95% CI: 1.11–1.79). No symptoms significantly influenced school attendance and no accumulation of symptoms was observed. In this large-scale survey in Nagoya, Japan, we found that the HPV vaccines were not significantly associated with the occurrence of 24 reported symptoms, thus suggesting no causal association between the vaccines and reported symptoms or adverse events.

Biography

Sadao Suzuki has his expertise in Cancer Epidemiology especially primary prevention. He studied Epidemiology and Biostatistics at Harvard School of Public Health and Nagoya University. He has broad experience in epidemiological studies including meta-analysis, randomized clinical trials, prospective and retrospective cohort studies, case-control studies, and cross-sectional studies. He is also interested in epidemiological methodology. He got an award for Young Investigators from Japan Epidemiological Association in 2005 for the paper in biostatistics entitled: The conditional relative odds ratio provided less biased results for comparing diagnostic test accuracy in meta-analyses.

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