

# Impact of Amendments to Cervical Cytology at Colposcopy Multidisciplinary Meetings

SM Scheck <sup>a,b</sup>, S Lepine <sup>a,c</sup>, P Fitzgerald <sup>d</sup>, D Maharaj <sup>a</sup>, H Clentworth <sup>c</sup>, A Tristram <sup>c</sup>

- a) University of Otago, Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, School of Medicine, Wellington, New Zealand  
b) Hawke's Bay Hospital, Hawke's Bay District Health Board, Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Hawke's Bay, New Zealand  
c) Wellington Regional Hospital, Capital and Coast District Health Board, Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Wellington, New Zealand  
d) Southern Community Laboratories, Dunedin, New Zealand

Corresponding author: Simon M Scheck [simon.scheck@otago.org.nz](mailto:simon.scheck@otago.org.nz)

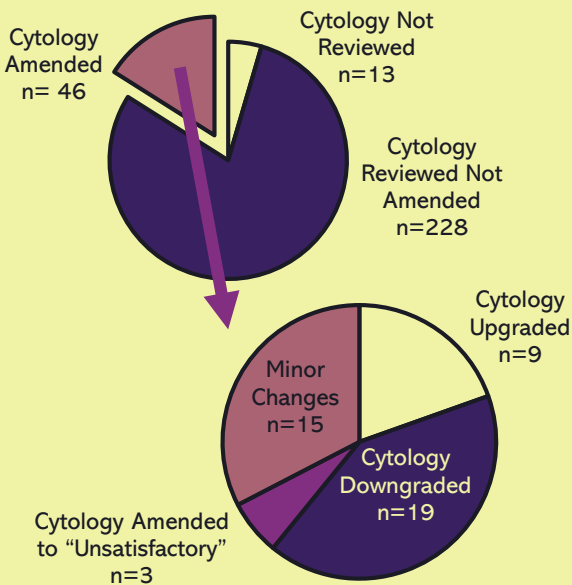
## Background

- Interpretation of cervical cytology is qualitative and prone to inter- and intra-observer variability <sup>1,2</sup>
- Effective cervical screening programmes include multidisciplinary meeting (MDM) review of cervical pathology, often leading to amended results <sup>2,3</sup>
- We set out to determine the number of cases where cervical cytology was amended at colposcopy Multidisciplinary team Meetings (MDM), and follow up results of these patients

## Methods

- All patients reviewed from January 2016 to December 2017 at colposcopy MDM at a tertiary referral centre in New Zealand were included (n=287)
- Colposcopy MDM documentation was retrieved for all cases including diagnoses before and after the meeting.
- Where cytology was amended, follow up results were retrieved where available.

## Results



## Follow up

- When cytology was downgraded (n=19), **no cases** were identified where follow up yielded a higher grade result
- When cytology was upgraded (n=9), **4 cases (44%)** had subsequent results equal or higher grade, **including one case of adenocarcinoma**

## Discussion

- Review of cervical smear cytology at Colposcopy MDM appears to **improve both specificity and sensitivity** of the comprehensive cervical screening programme
- Downgrade occurred more often than upgrade – therefore MDM likely leads to a **reduction in unnecessary treatments**
- A small number of cases of malignant or premalignant disease were also identified, which impacted upon the treatment offered.

## References

1. Tidy JA *et al.* NHS Cervical Screening Programme Colposcopy and Programme Management. Public Heal Engl. 2016;(20).
2. Stoler MH, Schiffman M (2001) Interobserver Reproducibility of Cervical Cytologic and Histologic Interpretations. Realistic Estimates From the ASCUS-LSIL Triage Study. JAMA 285(11):1500.
3. National Screening Unit. Guidelines for Cervical Screening in New Zealand [Internet]. Wellington, New Zealand: National Screening Unit, Ministry of Health; 2008.