



Aboriginal Populations and HPV Initiatives

Improving HPV Prevention among Aboriginal Peoples Workshop Workshop Summary

On December 9, 2008 the International Centre for Infectious Diseases (ICID) in conjunction with the Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC), and supported by The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, hosted a workshop involving 50 key stakeholders from across Canada representing 24 different organizations. The workshop was intended to discuss and further the understanding of issues with respect to improving HPV disease prevention in Aboriginal communities. The workshop was held in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada.

Objectives for the workshop were to: share current information on HPV and related Aboriginal health issues; identify HPV research gaps and priorities; and identify HPV vaccine implementation challenges and strategies for vaccination program improvement. Presentations were organized into three broad themes: Understanding HPV; Developing a Population Level Understanding of HPV; and Developing Community Understanding and Program Implementation.

Key issues and priority needs identified:

- build and improve relationships with, and develop capacity in, Aboriginal communities;
- improve public understanding of HPV and related content and integrate this information with other health & related issues in a holistic approach;
- improve public health program service, health databases, and technological infrastructure;
- establish clear research protocols and undertake additional research on HPV within Aboriginal communities;
- ensure appropriate resources and follow a shared responsibility model for making it happen.