Author's response to reviews

Title: Prevalence of Human Papillomavirus in young Italian women with normal cytology. How should we adapt the national vaccination policy?

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Genoa, 20\(^{th}\) November 2013

Dear Dr. Harris,

We have revised our manuscript in accordance with the suggestions made by your Associate Editor. The new corrections appear in blue in the text, while the previous corrections appear in red.

Yours sincerely,

Donatella Panatto

The made corrections are as follows:

In the Abstract, the final sentence has been modified to read “Our findings confirm the crucial importance of conducting studies on women without cytological damage, in order to optimise and update preventive interventions against HPV infection, and suggest that vaccinating 26-year-old females at the time of their first pap-test is to be recommended, though this issue should be further explored”.

In the Conclusions section, the second to last sentence has been modified to read “Our findings also emphasize the importance of vaccinating young women up to 18 years of age through catch-up campaigns. Furthermore, they suggest the utility of updating vaccination strategies so as to include women up to 26 years of age, while taking the opportunity to perform a Pap test at the time of administering the first dose of vaccine. Nevertheless, this strategy should be further explored”.