Reviewer’s report

Title: Cervical dysplasia and use of hormonal contraceptives in Jamaican women

Version: 1 Date: 27 November 2007

Reviewer: Saibua Chichareon

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Overview

This case-control study was designed to determine the association (odds ratio) between cervical dysplasia and using of hormonal contraception in specific context. It was found that HC have some risk of dysplasia, especially long-term use for more than 4 years.

Comments

1. The question in this study is well defined, but not new. A couple of large study concluded that long-term use of hormonal contraception increased significant risk of cervical cancer. However, data about DMPA on cervical cancer risk is still insufficient; thus, the result of this study supports the potential risk of DMPA.

2. Case-control study was appropriate method. The source of sample size was not declared, and the detail of questionnaire was not shown (Discretionary Revisions).

The grouping of women with diseased is questionable (Minor Essential Revisions). Severity of diseased usually based on histological diagnosis, not on cytological diagnosis. The proposed categorization should be pre-invasive (CIN I-III) and invasive state. Pre-invasive group may require sub-group analysis, as low-grade lesion (CIN I) versus high-grade lesion (CIN II, III)

3. The data are sound but unable to evaluate their quality.

4. Reporting and data deposition are relevant

5. By using logistic regression analysis, the data support the association between HC and disease in both occurrence and severity. The evidence at both molecular and clinical level were referred to explain why women using HC susceptible to HPV infection. For conclusion, clinical implication was also proposed.

6. Both title and background of this study focused on cervical dysplasia, but the subjects in the study were women with all types of CIN as well as invasive cervical cancer. Thus, the title and abstract (background) should be revised to convey accurate information from the study. (Major Compulsory Revisions)

7. The format of the writing is acceptable.

Advice
- Acceptance if the authors change the title to convey accurate information from the study.

Level of interest
- An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English
- Acceptable

Statistical review
- Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

Declaration of competing interests
- I declare that I have no competing interest’ below.