

CONTENTS

Preface	vii
Chapter 1	
Cervical cancer screening programmes as part of national cancer control policies	1
Introduction	1
Assessing the current situation	1
Setting health objectives	2
Evaluating possible strategies	2
Setting priorities using quantitative assessments	3
Conclusion	4
Chapter 2	
The natural history of cervical cancer and the implications for screening policy	6
Introduction	6
Classification of cervical cancer	6
Regression of dysplasia	8
Regression of carcinoma <i>in situ</i>	9
Chapter 3	
Managerial guidelines for implementation and evaluation of cervical screening	15
Background	15
Deciding upon a cervical cancer screening programme	16
Evidence that cervical cancer is a major health problem	16
Characteristics of individuals and populations at risk	17
An appropriate health service infrastructure	17
Technical resources for smear collection and cytological examination	17
Resources for diagnosis and treatment of cases	18
Health service sectors in which screening can be offered	18
Epidemiology	19
Coverage of women at risk	19
Comparison of epidemiology and coverage	20
Use of maternal and child health/family-planning services for initiating screening	20
Use of occupational health services for screening	21
Use of mobile units for screening	22
Costs of screening in different health service sectors	22
Frequency of screening	22
Age to initiate screening	24

Contents

Health education about screening	24
Effect of a single smear in a woman's lifetime	25
Economic aspects of screening	26
Monitoring and evaluation of screening	27
Responsibility for cervical cancer screening	28
Chapter 4	
Cervical screening in primary health care	30
Setting up a screening service	30
The smear register	30
Training of staff	30
Accommodation and equipment	30
Relationship with the laboratory	31
Relationship with the treating institution	31
The target group for screening	31
Ensuring that the target group is screened	32
Personal invitations	32
Casual attenders	33
Maternal and child health/family-planning clinics	33
Special events	33
Special surveys	34
Recording and reporting	34
Report forms	34
Informing women of their results	34
Management of women with abnormal smears	35
Counselling	35
Repeat cytology	36
Management and treatment of women with cytological abnormalities	36
Follow-up	36
Chapter 5	
Information systems for cervical cancer screening	38
Introduction	38
Population-based information systems	38
Information system design	40
Policy issues and use of data	40
Components of information systems	40
Other aspects of information systems	41
Monitoring and evaluation of the programme	41
Chapter 6	
Downstaging for cervical cancer	44
Introduction	44
Definition of downstaging	44
The need for downstaging	44

Contents

A possible approach to downstaging	45
Women to be examined	45
Personnel needed for the examinations	45
The examination	46
Use of cervical cytology	46
Referral for diagnosis	47
Frequency of examination	47
Evaluation	47
Conclusion	48
References	49