

International Cancer Screening Network (ICSN)

Rachel Ballard-Barbash, MD, MPH
for the NCI ICSN Team

Applied Research Program
National Cancer Institute
Bethesda, MD USA

<http://appliedresearch.cancer.gov>

Background & History

- Established (1988) as the International Breast Cancer Screening Database Project
 - Conceptualized by Professor Sam Shapiro
 - Purpose: generate a common database for the evaluation of screening mammography programs
 - ‘Provide a mechanism to compare data from population-based screening programs, to facilitate the most effective and efficient contribution of screening to breast cancer control worldwide’
 - Representatives from 11 countries began participating in a series of meetings

Background & History (2)

- Purpose revised (1997): foster collaborative efforts aimed at -
 - Using and comparing data from screening mammography programs internationally
 - Developing methods for evaluating the impact of population-based screening mammography programs
- Name changed (1997) to the International Breast Cancer Screening Network (IBSN)
- Network expanded to include 27 countries
- Each country has 1 representative

Background & History (3)

- **2004 Biennial Meeting, Oslo, Norway:**
 - Meeting agenda included sessions on colorectal and cervical cancer surveillance
- **2006 Biennial Meeting, Ottawa, Canada:**
 - Country representatives voted to expand the network to include 3 evidence-based types of cancer screening: Breast, Colorectal, Cervical
 - 2nd name change: International Cancer Screening Network (ICSN)
 - Purpose unchanged

ICSN Sponsorship and Structure

- **Sponsored by U.S. National Cancer Institute**
 - Chair: Rachel Ballard-Barbash, M.D., MPH (1995-present)
 - Scientific coordination:
 - Carrie Klabunde, Ph.D. (1997-present)
 - Stephen Taplin, M.D., MPH (2005-present)
 - Logistics/communications coordination:
 - Kathleen Barry (1997-2005)
 - Sarah Dash, MPH (2005)
 - Emily Dowling, MPH (2006-present)
- **Hold biennial meetings with working group meetings interspersed**

ICSN Participating Countries

Europe	Americas	Asia	Middle East	Oceania
Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, United Kingdom	Brazil* Canada United States Uruguay	Japan Korea Taiwan* Malaysia*	Saudi Arabia*	Australia New Zealand

* New Member

Working Groups

- 1995 Programme Assessment Working Group
 - Document and better understand the nature of the screening programs in IBSN countries
 - Shapiro S et al. Breast cancer screening programmes in 22 countries: current policies, administration and guidelines. *Int J Epidemiol* (1998); 27: 735-742
 - Ballard-Barbash R et al. Breast cancer screening in 21 countries: delivery of services, notification of results and outcomes ascertainment. *Eur J Cancer Prev* (1999); 417-426

Working Groups (2)

- 1998 Quality Assurance Working Group
 - Assess and compare quality assurance activities for screening mammography across IBSN countries
 - Klabunde C et al. Quality assurance for screening mammography: an international comparison. *J Epidemiol Community Health* (2001); 55: 204-212
 - Hendrick RE et al. Quality control practices in screening mammography programs in 22 countries. *Int J Qual Health Care* (2002); 14: 219-226
 - Klabunde C et al. Quality assurance for data collection systems in 22 countries. *Int J Technol Assess Health Care* (2001); 17: 528-541
 - Klabunde C et al. Quality assurance in follow-up and treatment for screening mammography programs in 22 countries. *Int J Qual Health Care* (2002); 14: 449-461

Quality assurance in follow-up and initial treatment for screening mammography programs in 22 countries, 1998

	Program is responsible for follow up of abnormal MMs	Has policy or guideline for follow up of abnormal	Sets standards for % abnormal screening MMs	Specifies time limit for follow up of abnormal MMs	Has case conferences to review abnormal that are breast ca
Yes	73%	68%	64%	55%	73%
No	27%	32%	36%	45%	27%

Note: Table shows the proportion of countries, for each item. Data were collected in 1998.

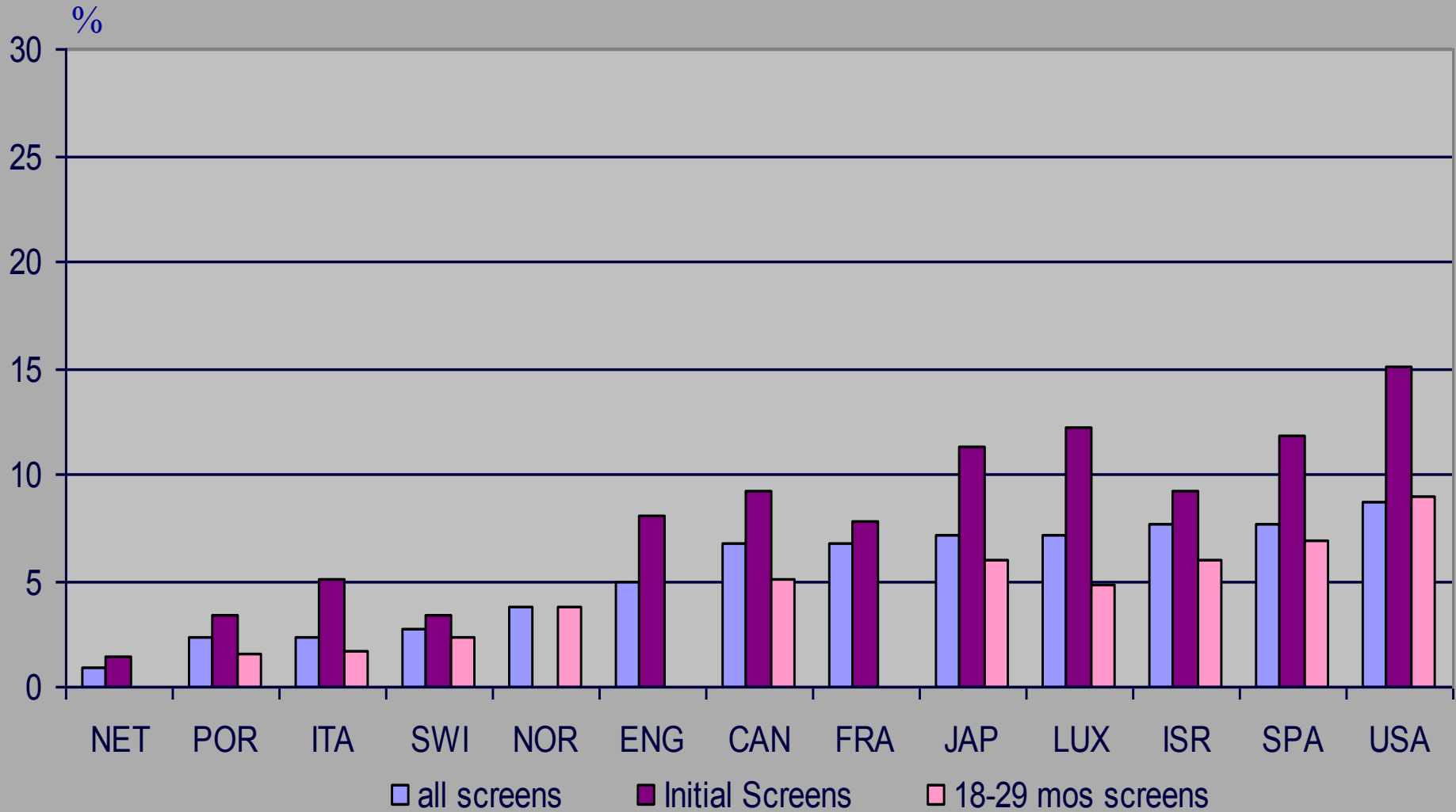
Working Groups (3)

- 1999 Mortality Evaluation Group (MEG)
 - Discuss and compare different methodologies for evaluating the impact of population-based screening mammography on breast cancer mortality.
 - Evaluate case-control design as methodology for evaluating impact of mammography programs (lead: Eugenio Paci)

Working Groups (4)

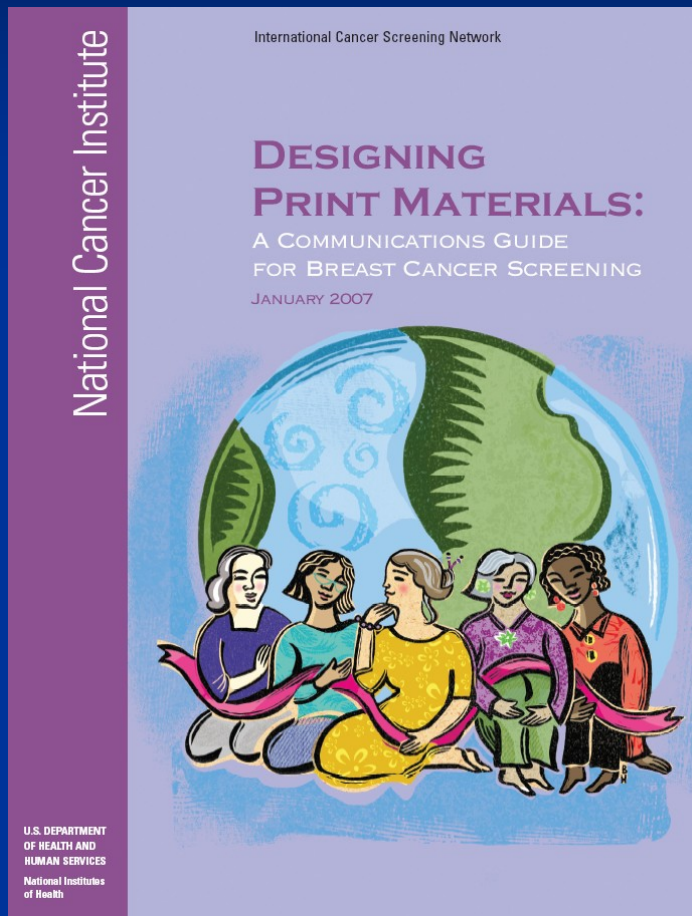
- 1999 Performance Parameters Evaluation Group (PEG)
 - Enhance understanding of intermediate measures of screening mammography performance and variations in these measures across countries
 - Project: examine recall rates and PPV; compare with cancer incidence to facilitate understanding of screening program variation in these measures
 - Yankaskas BC et al. International comparison of performance measures for screening mammography: can it be done? *J Med Screen* (2004); 11: 187-193

Recall, IBSN screenng mammography



Working Groups (5) –

2002 Communications Group (Chair: Berta Geller)



- Health Departments - (local, state, national levels)
- Screening Programs
- Academic Institutions – (text in health promotion classes)
- Government Agencies
- Clinics/Hospitals
- Non-profits/Advocacy Groups

Working Groups (6)

- 2002 Performance Parameters Evaluation Group (PEG) II (Chair: Jacques Fracheboud)
 - Continue the work of PEG I
 - Examining sensitivity and the interval cancer rate as screening mammography performance measures
 - Bulliard JL et al. Methodological issues in international comparison of interval breast cancers. *Int J Cancer* (2006); 119: 1158-1163
 - Pilot data collection: comparison of interval cancer rate and sensitivity in North Carolina and Norway (leads: Bonnie Yankaskas; Solveig Hofvind)

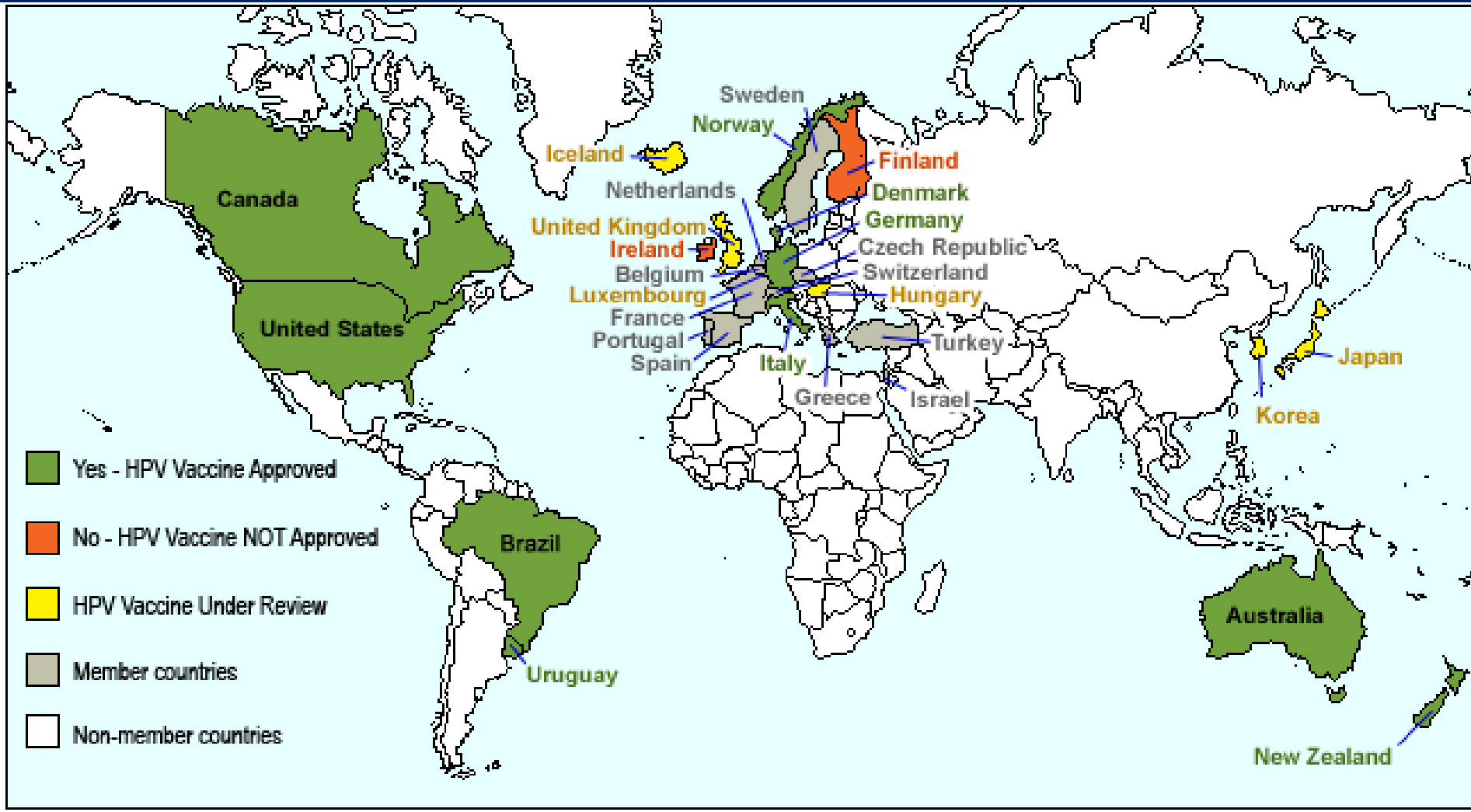
Other Collaborative Projects

- **Web Update of Program Practices and Policies**
 - Initiated in 2002
 - Contact ICSN countries every 2-3 years for information about screening program status
 - Post selected data on ICSN Web site
 - Coordinators: Carrie Klabunde, Emily Dowling, Kathy Sedgwick (NOVA Research)
- **Improving standardized measures for breast density and hormone therapy (lead: Brian Cox)**
- **Quality indicators of screen-detected breast cancer care (leads: Antonio Ponti; Stephen Taplin)**

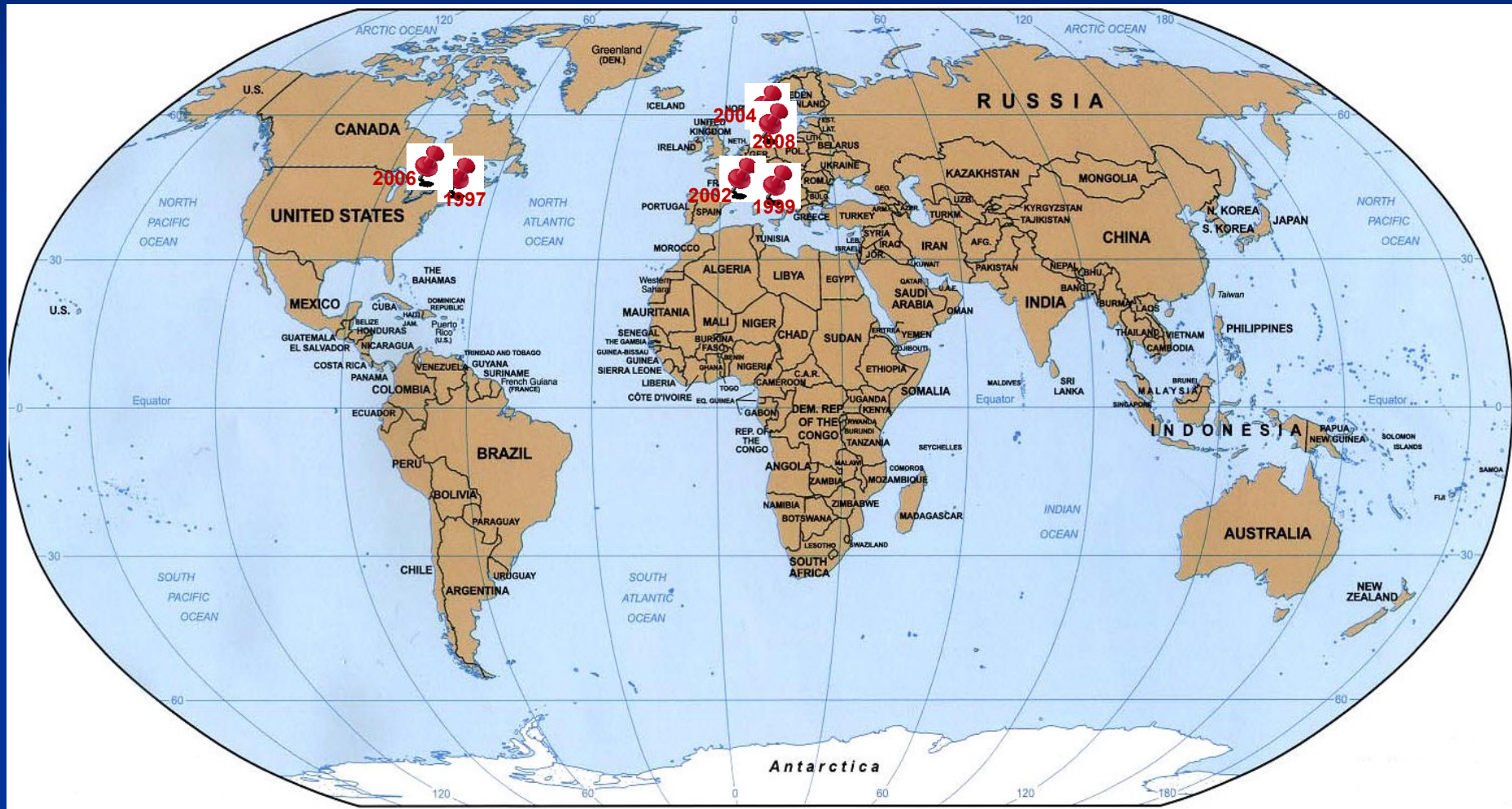
Status of Organized Cervical Cancer Screening in ICSN Countries: 2008

None	Planning/ RCT	Pilot	Regional	National
France Germany Israel Czech Republic Turkey	Luxemburg	Ireland	Australia Canada Denmark Italy Japan Uruguay US	Brazil Finland Hungary Iceland Korea New Zealand Norway United Kingdom

HPV vaccine status in ICSN Countries



ICSN Biennial Meetings



More on the ICSN

- **2008 Biennial Meeting (June 4-6, Denmark)**
 - Sessions & scientific presentations:
 - **Breast cancer screening—**
 - Reasons for observed declines in breast cancer incidence
 - Improving interpretive performance
 - Treatment issues in DCIS
 - Quality indicators for screen-detected breast cancer care
 - **Colorectal cancer screening—**
 - New technologies update (stool testing; virtual colonoscopy)
 - Panel on the future of endoscopy
 - Program implementation/evaluation: guidelines and quality standards
 - **Cervical cancer screening—**
 - Update on HPV DNA testing and HPV vaccine
 - 2nd Edition of European Guidelines for Cervical Cancer Screening
 - Status of program implementation and evaluation



International Cancer Screening Network

Sponsored by the National Cancer Institute

Search: GO

ICSN

Working Together to Evaluate Cancer Screening and Improve Outcomes Internationally

About the ICSN

- [Overview](#)
- [Participating Countries](#)
- [Contact the ICSN](#)

Collaborative Projects

- [Communications Working Group](#)
- [Performance Parameters Evaluation Group](#)
- [Mortality Evaluation Working Group](#)
- [Quality Assurance Working Group](#)
- [Programme Assessment Working Group](#)

Meetings

- [2008 Copenhagen](#)
- [2006 Ottawa](#)
- [2004 Norway](#)
- [2002 Montpellier](#)
- [1999 Edinburgh](#)

Cancer Sites

Breast Cancer

- [Mortality Rates](#)
- [Organization of Screening Programs](#)
- [Policies on Age Groups, Screening Intervals, & Detection Methods](#)
- [Policies on Number of Views & Double Reading](#)

Colorectal Cancer

- [Mortality Rates](#)
- [Screening Activities](#)

Cervical Cancer

- [Mortality Rates](#)
- [Screening Activities](#)

Items of Interest

- [New Publication: *Designing Print Materials: A Communications Guide for Breast Cancer Screening*](#)
- [Save the Date: ICSN Biennial Meeting -- June 4 - 6, 2008, Copenhagen, Denmark](#)

Publications

- [ICSN Collaborative Publications](#)
- [Other Collaborative Publications](#)
- [Publications from Member Countries](#)
- [Designing Print Materials: A Communications Guide for Breast Cancer Screening](#)