

28<sup>th</sup> June 2006

Dear Sir or Madam,

**Re: Positive Predictive Values in Independent Monitoring Group  
Reports 11, 12, 13 and 17**

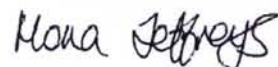
I am writing to inform you of an error in the method used to calculate the positive predictive value (PPV) of a high grade squamous intra-epithelial lesion (HSIL) cytology report.

The error in the calculation method is that cytology reports with the Bethesda 1998 code C3A2B7 were included as HSIL results. This is incorrect given the Independent Monitoring group (IMG) agreement that atypical squamous cells of undetermined significance possible high grade or can not exclude high grade should NOT be included in the calculation. The erroneous inclusion of these cytology results potentially caused the PPVs reported in the IMG Quarterly Monitoring Report 17 to be artificially lower than their true values.

The 'Cytology reports predicting HSIL by laboratory' section in the IMG Quarterly Monitoring Report 17 has therefore been withdrawn, along with the associated recommendations that were made by the IMG. The same methodological error was also made for IMG Quarterly Reports 11, 12, and 13, and this will be acknowledged on the healthy women website in due course.

Please accept the apology of the IMG for the inconvenience that this error has caused.

Yours faithfully,



Dr Mona Jeffreys, Chair  
On behalf of the NCSP-IMG

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