







## 7. Competing interests

The authors declare that they have no competing interests.

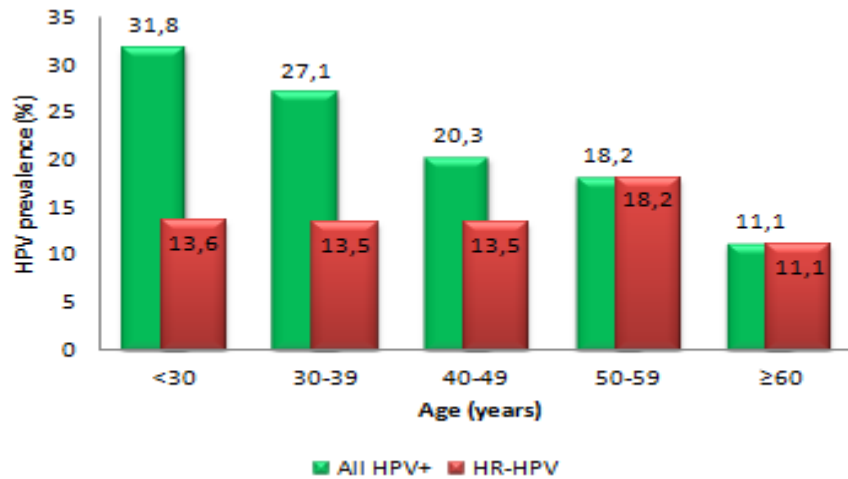
## 8. Authors' contributions

ALMB conducted all handling and the overall design of the experiment. MM has participated greatly in handling and made a review of the manuscript. DM participated in the critical reading of the manuscript and sampling. LH and MME were responsible for the implementation of the project and MME was also the supervisor. All authors read and approved the final manuscript.

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**Figure 2:** General trend of HPV and that of HR-HPV infection based on age among Southwestern Congolese women with normal cervical cytology

**Table 1:** Distribution of HPV infection by age among 204 women with normal cytology

Age	No. of patients	All HPV + n (%)	HR-HPV								LR-HPV				
			HPV16	HPV33	HPV31	HPV35	HPV58	HPV18	HPV67	HPV66	HPV70	HPV6	HPV81	HPV83	HPV54
<30	22	7(31.8)	2(28.6)	1(14.3)	*	*	*	*	*	2(28.6)	1(14.3)	1(14.3)	*	*	
30-39	81	22(27.1)	6(27.3)	1(4.5)	*	1(4.5)	2(9)	*	*	1(4.5)	4(18.2)	3(16.6)	2(9)	1(4.5)	1(4.5)
40-49	59	12(20.3)	2(16.6)	2(16.6)	2(16.6)	1(8.3)	*	*	1(8.3)	*	2(16.6)	1(8.3)	*	1(8.3)	
50-59	33	6(18.2)	2(33.3)	1(16.6)	1(16.6)	1(16.6)	*	1(16.6)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
≥60	9	1(11.1)	1(100)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Total	204	48(23.5)	13(27.0)	5(10.4)	3(6.2)	3(6.2)	2(4.2)	1(2.0)	1(2.0)	1(2.0)	8(16.6)	5(10.4)	3(6.2)	2(4.2)	1(2.0)

(\*), Unidentified

### Author Profile



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