Colposcopy Accuracy at Riga Eastern Clinical University Hospital: Situation after Colposcopist's Training and Certification in the UK

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Introduction. Colposcopic accuracy is defined as the clinical correlation between a colposcopic impression and a histologic report of high grade cervical precancer lesions. Colpocopic accuracy is one of the required fields for quality assurance (QA) standards.

A cervical cancer screening programme was established in Latvia in 2009, and the colposcopic part of the programme was started in June 2012. The European Federation for Colposcopy and British Society for Colposcopy and Cervical Pathology sponsored two gynaecologists from Latvia to receive hands-on colposcopic experience and to see UK colposcopy QA in practise. This was to enable RCOG/BSCCP colposcopy certification and to determine what aspects of QA could easily be introduced in the Latvian programme at this stage.

Aim. The aim of the study is to estimate colposcopy accuracy at Riga Eastern Clinical University Hospital.

Material and Methods. Case notes of 2654 women who attended the colposcopy clinic over a 1-year period in 2014 were retrospectively analysed. An Audit forma was completed for each patient detailing the colposcopic impression, colposcopic and treatment outcomes as well as demographic information. It has been noted that in calculating accuracy, a proportion of patients with high grade biopsies were found to have low grade excision biopsies.

Results. 304 patients who had high grade punch biopsy histology results were reviewed. The colposcopic finding agreed within one histologic grade in 257 of these patients, giving colposcopic accuracy rate of 84.5%. The recalculated accuracy after extracting the low grade excision biopsies, predicted as low grade was 88%, giving a variance of 3.5%. The analysis of the influence of referring cytology followed. Using high grade referral cytology, the colposcopic accuracy was 92%.

Conclusions. Colposcopic accuracy is within EFC/BSCCP standards at our clinic. High level of colposcopy training in the UK and realizing of importance of QA standards in colposcopy help us to introduce of a high-quality colposcopy service with an embedded QA component in Latvia.