



MINISTERUL SĂNĂTĂȚII,  
MUNCHI ȘI PROTECȚIEI SOCIALE  
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# Assessment of Knowledge, Attitudes and Practices on Cervical Cancer Prevention in the Republic of Moldova - Post-intervention study

Authors: Andrei Ciobanu, Rodica Gramma, Aurelia Bradetchi, Adriana Baban

Implementer: **magenta**consulting

Chisinau, 2020

The **triangulation** of both the participants and the data collection methods was the principle of the methodology used. The following data were collected:

## QUANTITATIVE



1142 women

National representative **survey** among the target segment - women aged 25-61.

**Sample:** stratified, multistage probabilistic.

**Margin of error:** +-3%.

## QUALITATIVE

The post-intervention study represents the replication of the 2018 study and allows the assessment of knowledge, attitudes and practices among the target population, as well as their change over time, as a result of the interventions performed.



30 women  
aged 25-61

In-depth interviews



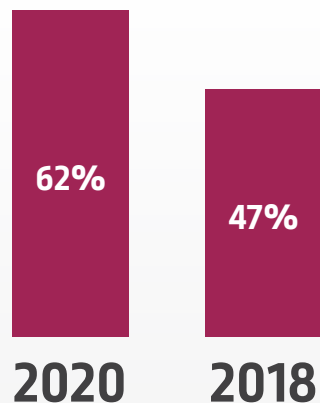
30 doctors  
and medical  
assistants

In-depth interviews



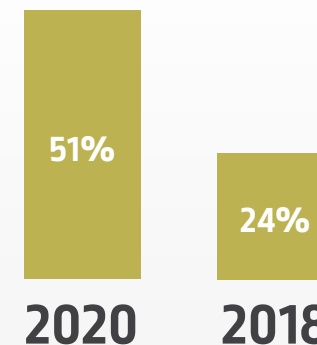
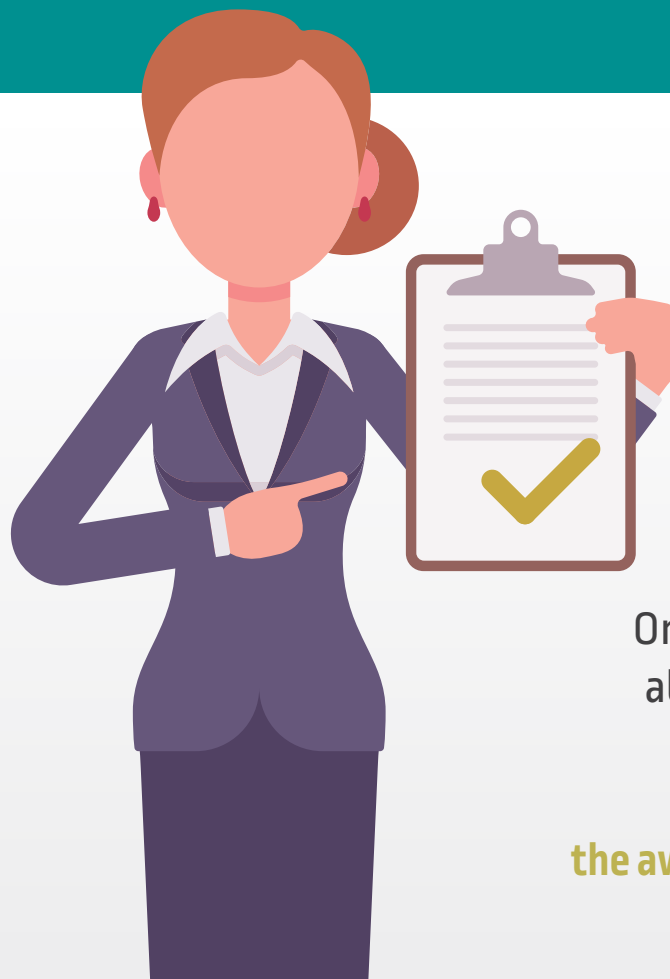
15 experts  
in health policies

In-depth interviews



The share of women aged 25-61 that know about the cytology test is 62% in 2020.

**The awareness of the cytology test increased by 15 p.p. compared to 2018.**



One in two women aged 25-61 knows about the cervical screening service, within the cytology test is performed for free. In 2020,

**the awareness of this service increased by 27 p.p. compared to 2018.**

Women aged 36-45 know to a larger degree about the availability of the cytology test, compared to women of other ages.

### SHARE OF WOMEN WHO KNOW ABOUT THE CYTOLOGY TEST

#### AGE



#### AREA

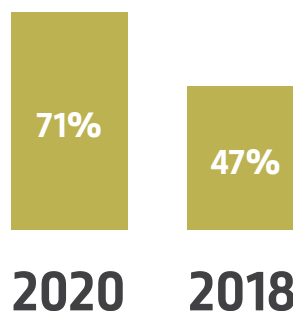


2020

# 71%



of women who know about the cytology test, **know that it can be performed for free**, by consulting a family doctor. This share increased by 24 p.p. in 2020 compared to 2018.

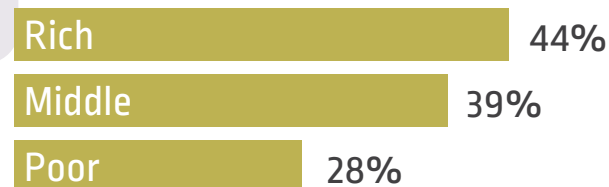


In 2020, **39%** of women who know about the cytology test **know what the recommended frequency** of this test is in the Republic of Moldova

# 39%<sup>2020</sup> 34%<sup>2018</sup>



## 2020, FINANCIAL STATUS



Women from families with a poor financial status know to a lesser degree that there is a possibility to perform the test for free

## 2020, FINANCIAL STATUS



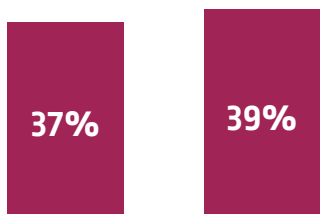
\* According to the Standard on organizing and functioning of the cervical screening service - the cytology test must be performed **once every 3 years**

## INTENTION TO DO THE CYTOLOGY TEST

# 37%

# 2020

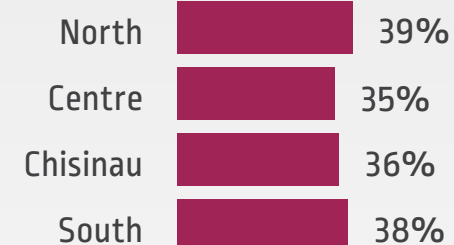
of women aged 25-61  
would certainly have  
the cytology test  
performed, if it was  
offered to them



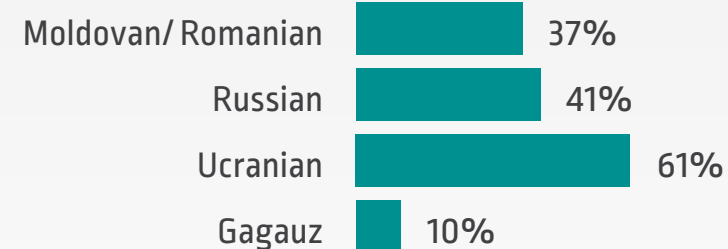
2020

2018

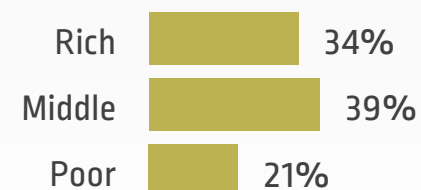
### REGION



### NATIONALITY

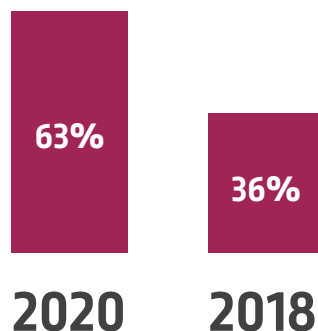


### FINANCIAL STATUS



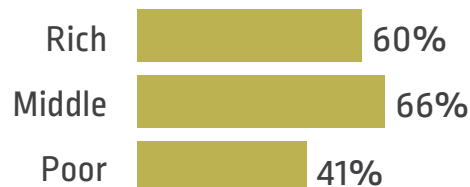
Gagauz women and women from families with poor financial situation are less likely to do the cytology test

## The share of women who had the cytology test performed increased about twice in 2020 compared to 2018



The highest share of women who had the cytology test performed is in the South of the country, as well as in families with a middle financial situation.

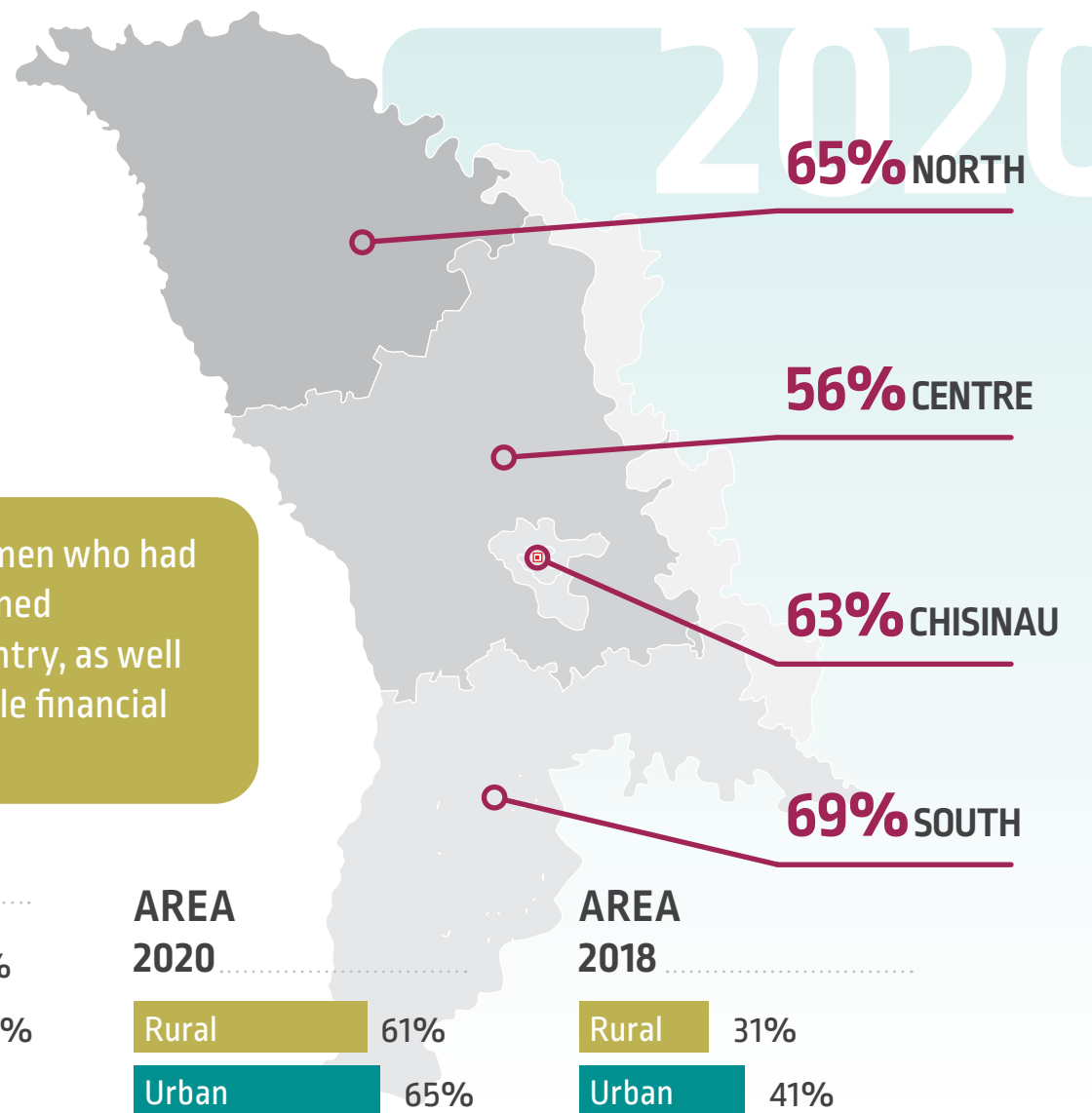
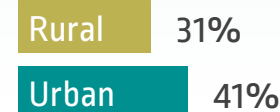
### FINANCIAL STATUS



### AREA 2020



### AREA 2018



## AT WHOSE INITIATIVE THE LAST CYTOLOGY TEST WAS DONE

Out of the total of women who had the cytology test performed, it was conducted:

At the initiative of the family doctor or his/her medical assistants



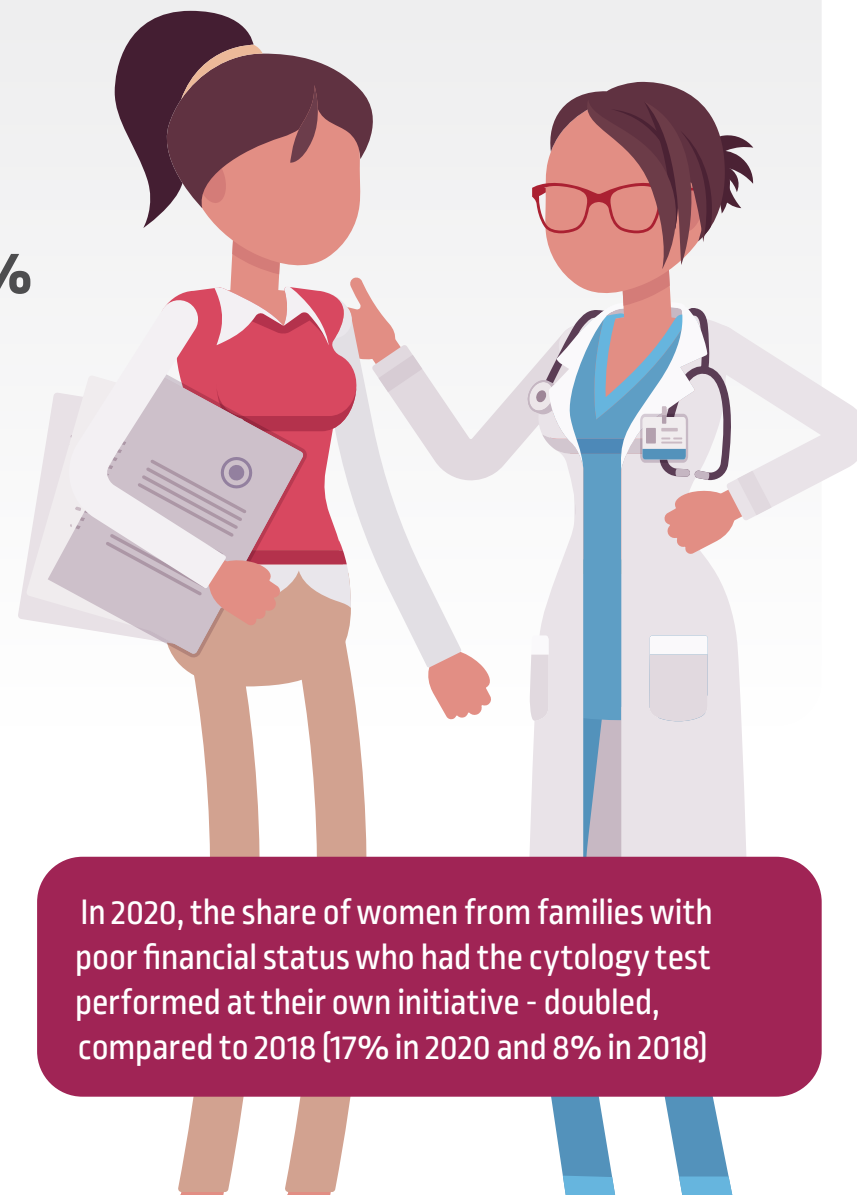
At the initiative of the gynaecologist



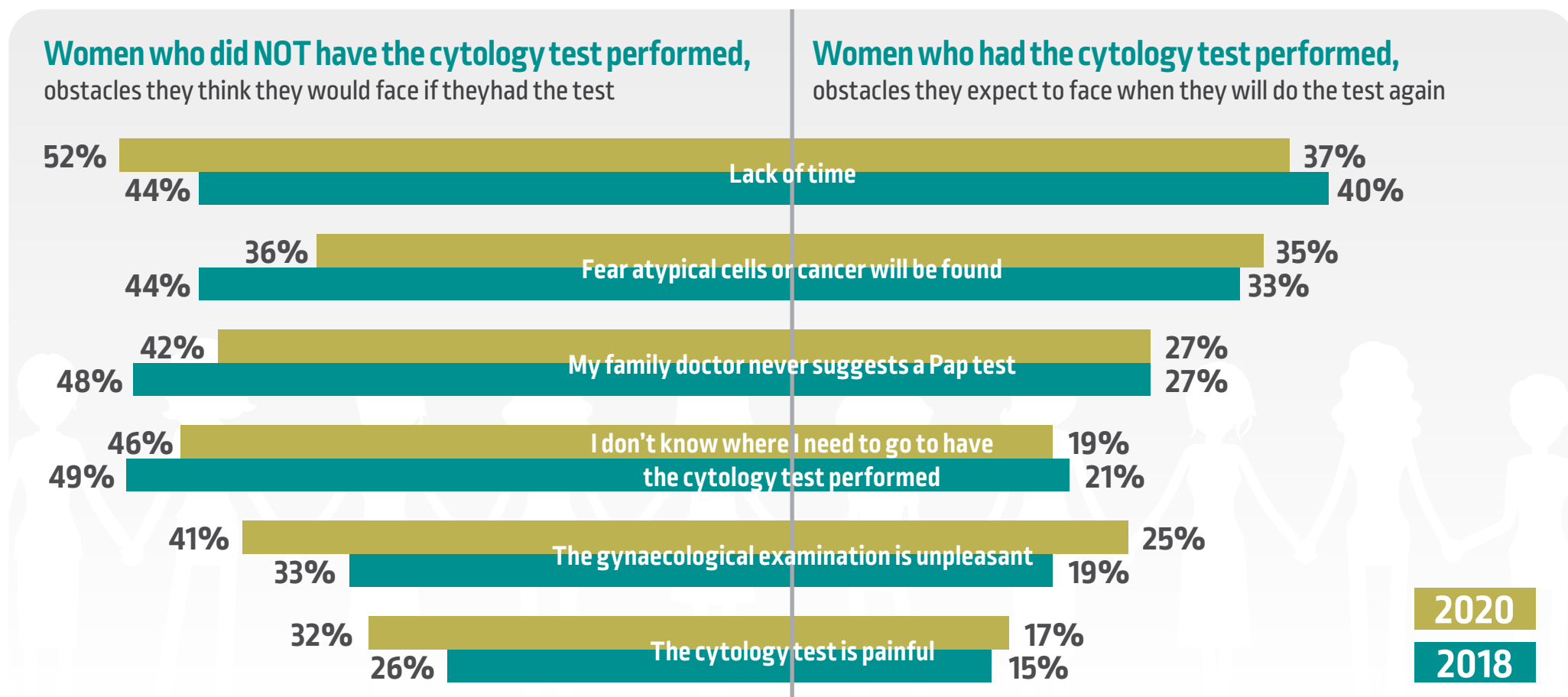
At the initiative of the woman herself



The share of women who had the cytology test performed when proposed by the family doctor and medical assistant increased in 2020.



## Perceived obstacles to doing the cytology test



Compared to women who had the cytology test performed, women who didn't have the cytology test performed expect to a greater extent to face the following obstacles if they decide to have the cytology test: they do not know where to go to have the cytology test performed, the family doctor does not suggest having the cytology test performed and the opinion that the cytology test is painful.



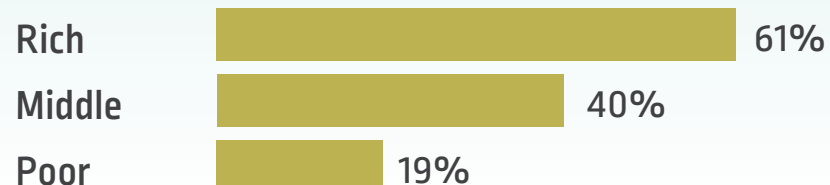
38%<sup>2020</sup> 40%<sup>2018</sup>

About 38% of the women aged 25-61 know about the anti-HPV vaccine

#### AREA



#### FINANCIAL STATUS



Fewer women from families with a poor financial status, and also from rural area, know about the anti-HPV vaccine as a method to prevent cervical cancer



29%<sup>2020</sup>

23%<sup>2018</sup>

of the women who have daughters around the age of 10, had them vaccinated against HPV

# TOP 3

information sources about the cervical screening in the Republic of Moldova, mentioned by the women who know about this subject



Family doctor/medical assistant



Gynaecologist



Radio, TV, newspaper, magazine



The role of the media is still perceived as reduced in informing the population on cervical screening service



**Preferred method** of invitation to the cytology test mentioned by the women aged 25-61



Phone call

2020

48%

2018

51%



Verbal invitation during the visit to the family doctor

2020

37%

2018

34%





The survey was conducted under the coordination of the Ministry of Health, Labour and Social Protection, with the support of UNFPA, United Nations Population Fund, and Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) within the 'Cervical Cancer Prevention in the Republic of Moldova' Project and does not necessarily represent the point of view of UNFPA, SDC, or of any other of its affiliated organisations.