

## PROFILE STATS

- Covered period: July '10 – June '12
- Ten indicators (ninth and tenth indicators are available on the Web site)
- 15th semi-annual Profile release
- 1,752 providers receive individualized Profiles
- 329 providers have gone paperless

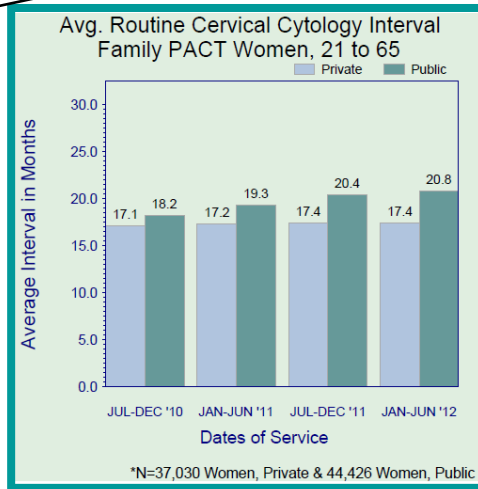
## COMMENTS?

## UPDATES?

## QUESTIONS?

Use the Provider Response Form to:

- Go “paperless”
- Update your contact information, including e-mail address
- Request contact from the OFP



in this issue

**routine cervical cytology intervals:**

**guidelines**

**new indicator**

**resources for clinicians**

**resources for clients**

Welcome to **PROFILETALK**, the Provider Profiles (Profiles) Newsletter from the Family Planning, Access, Care and Treatment (Family PACT) Program. The Office of Family Planning (OFP) appreciates hearing how the Profiles support your quality improvement activities. We also welcome opportunities to enhance the Profiles to make them more valuable in your clinical setting. Over the years, we have received numerous requests for an indicator on cervical cytology. In response, we are pleased to introduce our newest indicator reflecting routine cervical cytology screening intervals. This issue features routine cervical cytology; reviews the newest guidelines; introduces and explains the indicator; and provides resources for information, training, and ways to present the new intervals to your clients. It is also accompanied by a new Clinical Practice Alert from the OFP on routine cervical cytology screening. As always, we welcome your feedback on the Profiles. Please take the time to complete the attached provider response form.

Sincerely,

Christina Moreno, Acting Chief  
Office of Family Planning

**Family PACT**

Planning • Access • Care • Treatment

OFFICE OF FAMILY PLANNING  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE SERVICES

## The bottom line on the new cervical cytology indicator

The OFP anticipates that the new routine cervical cytology indicator will support your efforts to modify practice patterns in alignment with the new national guidelines endorsed by Family PACT. Routine cervical cytology is recommended once every three years for most clients between the age of 21 and 65.

If you make changes to your cervical cytology screening right now, you will see the results of those changes partially represented in the Profile released next year. The first six-month period showing your practice changes (January – June 2013) will appear in the Summer 2014 Profile.

# FEATURED ARTICLES

## PROFILE OVERVIEW

The Family PACT Profiles offer you a way to view your practice patterns. The Profiles are similar to “report cards” commonly used by health plans, providing data on ten indicators that are directly attributable to your practice. The intention is that this information will encourage the delivery of high-quality clinical services while promoting responsible use of funding resources.

Information about your peer group’s median overall practice pattern is shown in comparison to your data to give you a reference point. While the Profiles offer valuable information for medical directors and practice managers, they are most valuable when shared with clinicians and staff in your practice.

## Routine Cervical Cytology Screening, Women Age 21-65

Family PACT is adopting the 2012 guidelines of the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF), which state that between the ages of 21 and 65 years, women should receive routine cervical cytology screening every three years if cervical cytology alone is used. Alternatively, women ages 30 to 65 years may be screened with a combination of cytology and human papillomavirus (HPV) testing every 5 years. However, Family PACT benefits only cover cervical cytology for routine screening purposes. Thus, the program endorses a three-year screening interval for Family PACT clients. Here are summary 2012 guidelines from the various national organizations as they pertain to women of reproductive age:

American College of Obstetricians & Gynecologists	}	Under 21	No screening
United States Preventive Services Task Force		21-29	Cytology alone every 3 years
American Cancer Society; American Society for Colposcopy and Cervical Pathology; American Society for Clinical Pathology Screening		30-65	Cytology & HPV every 5 years OR Cytology alone every 3 years

To assist Family PACT providers in monitoring their practice patterns relative to these guidelines, the OFP has developed a new Profile indicator. This indicator delivers the same information to you as the proposed performance measure from the ACOG Practice Bulletin on Screening for Cervical Cancer (No. 5, November 2012) that recommends monitoring the:

### ***Percentage of women aged 21-63 years who were tested at intervals shorter than recommended for their age.***

This measure is tracked mainly as a quality measure as cervical cytology screening performed too often leads to an excessive number of false-positive results. In addition, the OFP considers this a utilization measure as liquid-based cytology is an expensive test and over-utilization results in unnecessary costs billed to Family PACT.

The reporting of this measure is advisory at this time. However, the OFP expects that over time the screening intervals measure for your practice will more closely

approach the 36-month benchmark. If your interval currently is near 24 months, you likely implemented a protocol to follow the previous Family PACT guidelines (2005) that included age-stratified screening intervals of either two or three years.

If you do not have any data for this indicator, it means that you have fewer than 15 clients during the six-month period of interest for whom you previously submitted a cervical cytology claim for routine screening.

### Data Source

The OFP monitors program data through contracts with the UCSF Bixby Center for Global Reproductive Health and with Xerox. Sources include:

- Provider enrollment data
- Client enrollment data
- Claims data

Contact us at (916) 650-0414 or by e-mail to [fampact@dhcs.ca.gov](mailto:fampact@dhcs.ca.gov)

# FEATURED ARTICLES

## How is your average interval determined?

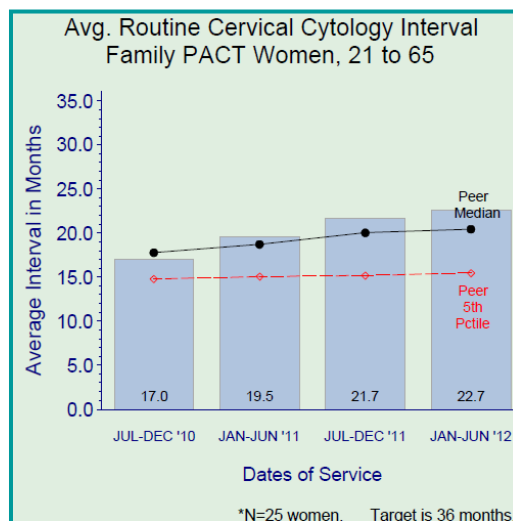
For this measure to be valid, it is important that the client cohort only reflects your practices for routine cervical cytology screening and does not include any clients who should be tested more frequently because of past abnormal results. Here is how the cohort was built:

First, all of the female clients age 21-65 who saw you and had a Pap smear in the 6-month observation period (January – June 2012 for this Profile release) were identified. Then we looked for all of your clients who saw you and had a Pap smear in the 42 months before their most recent date of service. Any clients without two visits and two Pap smears were excluded.

The next step was to make sure that all the clients included were routine screening clients by removing any client who previously had abnormal cervical cytology results. All clients who ever had a LEEP or cryotherapy were excluded as were all clients who had a colposcopy or HPV test in the last 18 months. The remaining clients were the final cohort for this indicator.

Here are some examples of who is and is not in the cohort:

- You saw a 20-year-old established client in January 2012 and took a Pap smear. Her previous cytology screening with you was in February 2010, 23 months earlier. Because she is younger than 21, she is not included in the cohort.
- You saw a 30-year-old established female client in March 2012 and took a Pap smear. Her previous cytology screening with normal results was in October 2010, 17 months earlier. She is in the cohort, contributing to the 22.7-month interval reflected in the most recent six-month observation period.
- You saw a 40-year-old established female client in February 2012 and took a Pap smear. Her previous cytology screening was in January 2011, 13 months earlier. In 2009 she had a LEEP. Because of this procedure and the indication that she should be on a surveillance path, she was removed from the cohort.
- You saw a 25-year-old established client in April 2012 and took a Pap smear. Her previous cytology screening in June 2010, 22 months earlier, was abnormal and she was referred for a colposcopy, which was negative. She is in the cohort because her colposcopy was done more than 18 months before the most recent date of service.



Once the client cohort has been identified, the distance in time between the two cytology screenings is calculated and then divided by the total number of women in the cohort, resulting in the Average Routine Cervical Cytology Interval for your practice.

## FIRST TIME RECEIVING A PROFILE?

There are two types of Provider Profiles:

### Program-wide profiles

- Labeled “Family PACT Provider Profile on Selected Measures”
- Compares public sector with private sector providers
- Issued to providers who do not receive an individualized profile
- Accessible online by all providers and by the public

### Individualized profiles

- Compares your practice’s performance to your peer group (either public or private sector)
- Issued to you when you have seen at least 50 Family PACT clients in any of the observation periods included in the profile.
- Accessible online only with the 10-digit National Provider Identified (NPI) used to bill Family PACT.

## HOW DOES THE OFF USE THIS DATA?

The OFF uses the profiles to develop Quality Improvement (QI) - focused technical assistance and provider-specific QI/Utilization Management action plans. When practice patterns reflect consistently significant outliers in relation to peer groups, referrals for additional review may be made to the California Department of Health Care Services, Audits and Investigations.

## ACCESSING EXPANDED PROFILES ONLINE

1. Go to the Family PACT Web site ([www.FamilyPACT.org](http://www.FamilyPACT.org))
2. Select "Providers" at the top of the screen
3. Choose "Provider Profiles" from the bar on the left or from the "Providers" drop-down menu
4. On the "Provider Profiles" Web page "Click here to access your Family PACT Provider Profile"
5. Enter the 10-digit NPI number registered with Family PACT for your location and click "Log in"
6. Select "Download" to the right of your profile file name

## Online Resources from the Family PACT "Providers" webpages

### Cervical Cytology

- Cervical Cytology Screening (Family PACT Clinical Practice Alerts)
- Live webcast: New Guidelines on Routine Cervical Cytology Screening by Dr. Michael Policar. Thursday, April 25, 2013, from 12:00 pm – 1:30 pm. Please register online from the Provider Training page.
- Cervical Cancer Screening and Diagnostic Follow-Up Training from the Cancer Detection and Treatment Branch beginning Summer 2013. Low cost, live trainings will include the latest guidance from the ASCCP on the management of Pap tests with no EC/TZ component, co-tests, and abnormal screening test results. The full schedule will be available online in Late Spring (<https://gap.sdsu.edu/education/cervicalscreen/cervicalTR.html>). CMEs are available.

### Provider Profiles to download with these bonus features:

- Percent of Family PACT E&M New Visits Coded 99204 (9<sup>th</sup> Profile indicator, only available with online Profile)
- Percent of Family PACT E&C Visits Coded Z9754 (10<sup>th</sup> Profile indicator, only available with online Profile)
- Client Demographic Profile (8 metrics, featured in **PROFILETALK 03**, only available with online Profile)

### Provider Profiles Supporting Materials

- Interpretations & Methodology
- Newsletter archive
- Profile FAQs
- Program-wide Profile
- Provider Response Form
- On-demand training module (featured in **PROFILETALK 03**)

## Helping clients understand why their Pap is no longer "annual"

The "annual" exam with Pap test has been a hallmark of women's health care for decades. As such, it is not always easy to explain to your patients that they are getting good health care, perhaps even better health care, when they do not have all the tests they are used to receiving.

To assist you, the OFF has updated our client health education material to explain the new intervals. **Your Pap Test: What To Expect** introduces the concept of not being tested until age 21. The new intervals are also explained at the sixth-grade reading level. Health education materials are free to Family PACT providers. The catalog and order form are accessible from the Providers, Client Education Materials page on our website.

