Decreasing HPV vaccination coverage: mapping roles of different stakeholders and societal-historical factors.

Introduction:
Vaccination coverage is the result of a complex interplay between different stakeholders with a specific societal and cultural background. The goal of this poster is to provide a brief overview of major events/aspects that may have contributed to the current situation in Japan. By listing the role or potential role of different stake holders or cultural-historical factors we may be able to compare different countries and find common denominators.

Possible event(s) leading to crisis:
- Early spring 2013 reports of alleged adverse events largely covered by the media. (1)

Position/role of the government/health authority
- The Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare suspended the proactive recommendations for HPV vaccination in June 2013 by advising prefectural governors not to actively recommend the vaccine, and to cease all vaccine promotion. (2)
- Hesitancy among government officials

Other stakeholders
- Many academic groups call the government to reestablish the HPV vaccination program, e.g. Aug 29, 2015, the Japan Society of Obstetrics and Gynecology released a statement about the Government’s suspension of recommendation for the use of the HPV vaccine, noting that the current situation in Japan should be evaluated based on scientific evidence.
- The Japan Pediatric Society actively recommends HPV Vaccination
- Media: Japan’s media coverage is sensational and not evidence based. (3) A study on newspaper articles published from January 2011 to December 2015 identified 1138 HPV vaccine-related articles. Articles concerning HPV vaccination after March 2013 were more likely to include adverse reaction-related and authority-related keywords; articles that included efficacy-related keywords decreased significantly. (1)

Adolescents/parents
- Confidence level based on confidence survey (based on general questions regarding vaccination, not focussed on HPV) (4)

Organized “anti-vaccine” activities
- HPV Victim support groups are very active (3)

• A study looking at acceptance of and attitudes towards HPV vaccination in Japanese mothers and adolescent girls prior to the official launch of the national HPV vaccination programme conclude that high uptake may be possible in a publically funded HPV vaccination programme if physicians actively address safety concerns and justify why the vaccine is needed at a particular age. (5)

Sources
10. Available at https://www.hpv-vakugai.net/2017/05/18/nagoya/