

Identification of Human Papillomavirus DNA in CO2 Laser Plume

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"Polymerase chain reaction identification of human papillomavirus DNA in CO2 laser plume from recurrent respiratory papillomatosis". Author Haskins K. Kashima, et. al. All but one RRP tissue specimen contained HPV-DNA, and none of the non-RRF tissues contained HPV-DNA. When HPV was present in vapor, the same HPV type was found in the corresponding tissue specimen. Identification of HPV-DNA in the laser plume raises concern regarding potential risks from exposure to the plume particularly to the endoscopic surgeon and the operating team. The practical concerns and effectiveness of the plume scavenging systems are discussed.

Many OR Personnel agree that there may be a problem with Laser Smoke but are not sure if that equates to ESU smoke too.