CHAPTER-II

OBJECTIVES


**Lacunae:**

In Assam, the incidence of cervical cancer is very high. Till date, a very limited number of studies have been done on cervical cancer and its associated immune modulation status, particularly in this geographical area. Although, limited data is available on HPV genotypes associated with cervical cancer in Northeast India (Das D et al.,2013; Ghosh S et al.,2011; Ray C et al.,2014) the data involving different patient cohorts showed different HPV genotype distribution; therefore requiring further addressing. Moreover, no data is available on the immune deregulations in the pathogenesis of HPV related cervical cancer development from the NE region which has an ethnically distinct population and is mostly tribal dominated. These key issues pertaining to the pathogenesis of cervical cancer development was aimed to be elucidated through the present study. Our study is a pilot study taking into consideration the role of HPV and some of the host immunological factors in the development and progression of cervical cancer.

**Hypothesis:**

We hypothesize that human papilloma virus infection is the major cause of cervical cancer in Assam, and differential immune-modulation may play an important role in association with HPV infection leading to cancer cervix.
Objectives:

1) To find out the prevalence of Human papilloma virus infection in cancer cervix development in the population of Assam and to identify the genotype of HPV infection.

2) To analyze the Immune-modulation status with respect to HPV related cervical malignancies.