FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH HPV VACCINATION AMONG DIVERSE ADOLESCENTS IN A REGION WITH LOW HPV VACCINATION RATES

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BACKGROUND

• Almost 40,000 cancers are caused by the human papillomavirus (HPV) annually in US; 1 in 100 US adults have genital warts caused by HPV.
• HPV vaccination prevents cervical, anal, oropharyngeal, penile, vulvar, and vaginal cancers, and genital warts.
• HealthyPeople.gov goals for HPV completion is 80%; In 2016, only 30.5% of Utahn adolescents completed the vaccine.
• Racial and ethnically diverse communities comprise 20% of Utah’s population; some are at higher risk for HPV cancers.
• Community Faces of Utah (CFU) is a partnership between five racial/ethnic community organizations, the Utah Department of Health, and the University of Utah.
  • African American
  • African Refugee
  • American Indian/Alaskan Native
  • Hispanic/Latino
  • Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander
• Purpose: This study utilized a community-based participatory approach to examine factors influencing diverse family caregivers’ intentions to vaccinate their children with the HPV vaccine, children’s HPV vaccine receipt, and barriers to vaccination.

METHODS

• IRB approval was obtained in May 2014
• Sampling: Convenience sampling conducted by CFU leaders
• Participants: Parents, legal guardians, and family caretakers of children aged 11-17 years; 18 years and above, who were able to speak English, Spanish, Tongan, or Kirundi
• Survey: 21-item survey assessing sociodemographics, acculturation, health care access, and children’s HPV vaccination status
• Analysis: Descriptive statistics, Fisher’s exact test for count data; p<0.05, conducted in R-2.15.1

RESULTS

• N=228 participants; only about 20% of participants self-reported at least one children receiving a dose of the HPV vaccine
• Factors associated with HPV vaccination
  • Caregiver age (p<0.05)
  • Race/ethnicity (p<0.01)
  • Educational attainment (p<0.01)
  • Annual household income (p<0.05)
  • Years in the US (p<0.05)
  • Caregiver parent birthplace (p<0.01)

DISCUSSION

• Sociodemographic and cultural factors are associated with caregiver reported HPV vaccination of children (aged 11-17 years) in Utah.
• Factors related to the willingness of caregivers to vaccinate sons versus daughters varied among caregivers with unvaccinated children.
• Immigrant status may be associated with having children vaccinated, and being more willing to vaccinate sons with HPV vaccine.
• Health insurance coverage was a significant factor for caregivers’ willingness to vaccinate girls and boys.
• Lack of knowledge of the HPV vaccine is a major barrier for diverse family caregivers in deciding about vaccinating sons and daughters.

CONCLUSION

• HPV vaccination prevents SIX HPV-associated cancers and genital warts.
• Few studies have examined HPV vaccination outcomes among these five populations in a state with a unique racial/ethnic history.
• Diverse groups may benefit from culturally-tailored interventions that address concerns about the HPV vaccine.
• Education about the HPV vaccine should take into account the differences in the gender of the child.
• Diverse communities may benefit from resources that highlight the availability of low-cost or free HPV vaccines and to clarify misunderstandings about the vaccine.

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