

EXAMINING DENTAL PROVIDERS COUNSELING ON HUMAN PAPILLOMAVIRUS VACCINE: INSIGHTS FROM PARENTS AND DENTAL PROFESSIONALS

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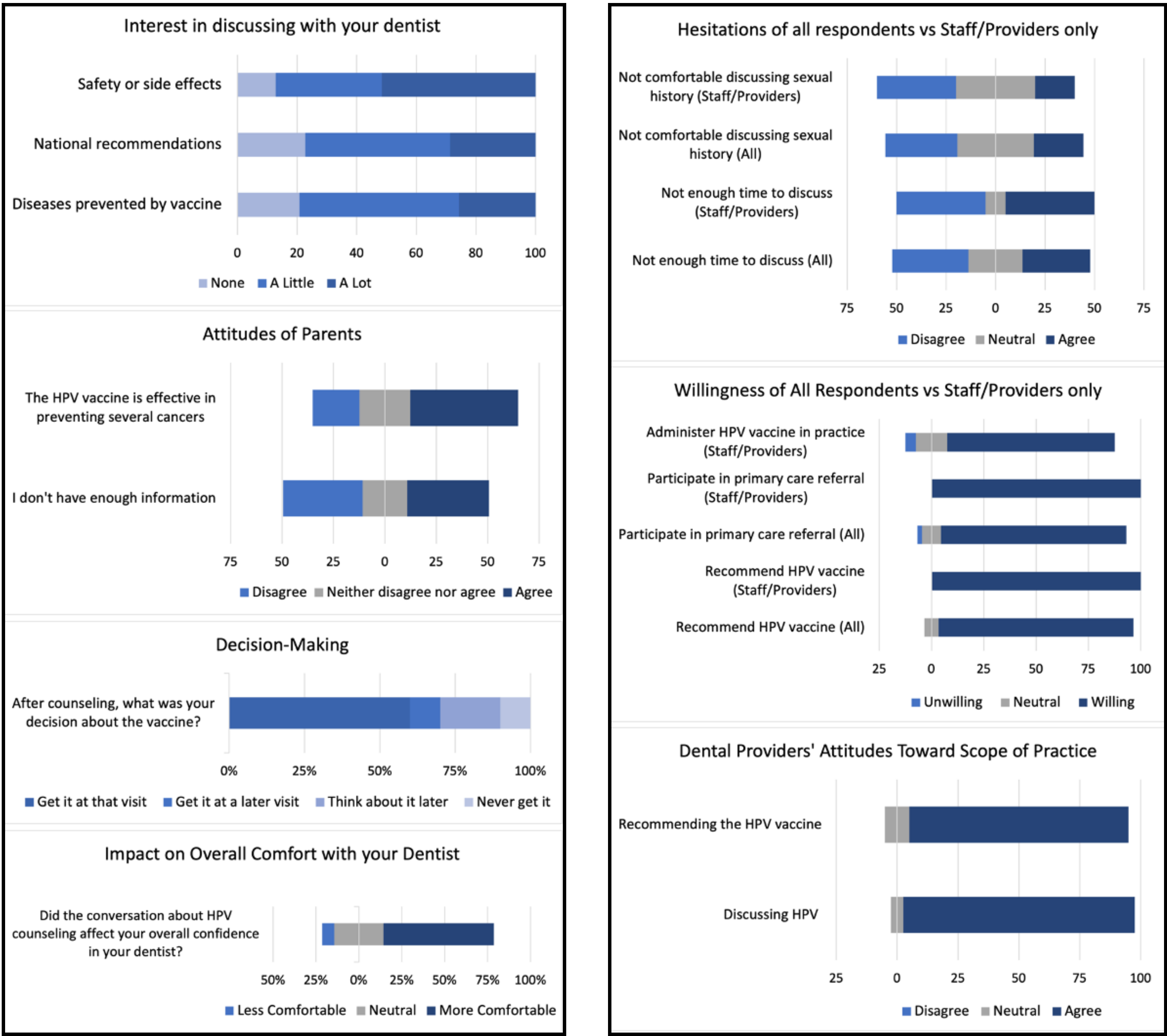
Background

- Human papillomavirus (HPV) is found in over 90% of cervical cancers and 70% of oropharyngeal cancers.¹
- Current vaccines offer up to 90% increased protection against oncogenic strains of the virus.²
- Vaccine hesitancy and barriers to healthcare access both create obstacles to achieve vaccine completion.²

Objectives

- Assess attitudes of parents of patients ages 9-17 years regarding HPV vaccine counseling and a same-day HPV vaccine program
- Assess perceptions among dental staff who actively participated in the same administration program.

Results



Parent Survey – (a) Interest and (b) attitudes of parents in discussing the HPV vaccine, N=101. For patients who reported counseling on the HPV vaccine during their dental visit and their (c) decision to vaccinate, and (d) confidence in their Dentist after counseling, N=20.

Dental Staff Member Survey – Attitudes of all respondents (dentists, hygienists, and other staff, N=44) versus those providing treatment (dentists and hygienists, N=20) regarding (a) hesitation to counseling, (b) willingness to counsel, and (c) scope of practice.

Methods

- Observational, cross-sectional, convenience survey of parents of patients ages 9-17 and dental staff at a large-urban federally qualified healthcare center from July 25, 2022, to August 26, 2022
- Parent and staff attitudes were assessed using validated instruments whenever possible
- Data was analyzed descriptively

Conclusion

- In a single site convenience survey within an urban, federally qualified health care system, most parents and dental staff perceived HPV vaccine counseling and administration favorably and clinically appropriate during routine dental visits.

References

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