

Awareness and acceptability of Human Papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine among staff of Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, Nigeria

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Summary

The study was carried out to document awareness, and acceptability of Human Papillomavirus virus (HPV) vaccines amongst staff of Obafemi Awolowo University Ile-Ife. A cross-sectional survey of 400 members of staff who are parents of female children aged 10-19 years was conducted. Information on awareness on HPV infection and vaccine, attitude towards and parental acceptability of vaccine were collected using a structured self administered questionnaire. A total of 400 questionnaires were administered, 385(96.3%) were correctly filled and analysed. Only few (16.6 %) have heard of HPV infection, of which 31.7 % obtained information from the hospital. Majority (92%) believed that it protects against cervical cancer, 18.7% believed it causes HPV infection and 49.6% believed it will promote promiscuity. Majority ((84.4%) agreed that the vaccine should be included in the routine immunisation schedule. Most of the parents (81.0%) were willing to accept HPV vaccination. Parental belief that the vaccine prevent cervical cancer ($\beta=0.38$, $P<0.001$) and parental agreement of its inclusion in routine immunisation ($\beta= 0.12$, $P=0.002$) were predictors of increased HPV acceptability. Increased parental HPV acceptability was associated with the belief that HPV vaccination was beneficial and protective to health. There is a need for it to be included in the pre-school immunisation programme.

Keywords: *Parental acceptability, HPV vaccine, Awareness*

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