ASSESS THE KNOWLEDGE TOWARDS HUMAN PAPILLOMA VIRUS VACCINE AMONG FEMALE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

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Abstract

Human papillomavirus (HPV) is the most common sexually transmitted infection. Although the majority of HPV infections are asymptomatic and resolve spontaneously, persistent infections can develop into anogenital warts, precancers, and cervical, anogenital, or oropharyngeal cancers in women. The relationship between cervical cancer and sexual behavior was suspected for more than 100 years and was established by epidemiologic studies in the 1960s.

A study was done to assess the knowledge about HPV vaccine among female high school students at selected high schools Chennai. The objectives of the study were to assess the knowledge about HPV vaccine among female high school students and to associate knowledge of HPV vaccine with their selected demographic variables of students, a sample of 60 students were selected in high school by using simple random sampling fulfilled the inclusion criteria were selected for this study. An extensive review of literature and guidance by experts formed the foundation to the development of the study.

The data collection tool related to knowledge on HPV and its importance of vaccine was validated and reliability was established. The data collection for the study was done, from the collected data the results was tabulated and analyzed. The results shows that there regarding knowledge there classification were inadequate knowledge of students 40%, moderate knowledge of students 14% and adequate knowledge of students 6%.

Regarding association there is significant association of knowledge towards human papilloma virus vaccination among female high school students with demographical variables like age, parents' educational status, parents occupational status, parents monthly income and have an older sister. But there is no significant association between knowledge towards human papilloma virus vaccine among female high school students with demographic variable like religion and source of information of human papilloma virus vaccine.

Key words: Female School Students, Chennai District, Knowledge, Human Papilloma Virus.

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1. Introduction

Human Papilloma virus (HPV) is a common, sexually transmitted virus. When not vaccinated, most people will be infected with HPV at some point in their life time. HPV is the most common viral infection of the reproductive tract and is the cause of a range of conditions in both men and women, including precancerous lesions that may progress to cancer and genital warts. Although the majority of HPV infections do not cause symptoms and resolve spontaneously, persistent infection with HPV may result in disease. In women, persistent infection with specific HPV types (most frequently HPV-16 and HPV-18) may lead to precancerous lesions which, if untreated, may progress to cervical cancer. HPV infection is also associated with oropharyngeal and a genital cancers and other conditions in men and women.

HPV vaccine has been offered routinely to girls aged 11-13 years and cervical cancer screening to women aged 25-64 years since 2008. HPV vaccination offers a unique opportunity for primary prevention of cervical cancer. Two HPV vaccines (Gardasil and cervix) protect against the two strains of HPV types 16 and 18, the vaccine is approved and recommended for use in females between 9-26 years of age, and the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommends 'catch up vaccination' for females between 13-26 years of age

This vaccine can prevent most cases of cervical cancer if the vaccine is given before girls or women are exposed to the virus. This vaccine can also prevent vaginal and vulvar cancer. In addition, the vaccine can prevent genital warts, anal cancers, and mouth, throat, head and neck cancers in women and men. In theory, vaccinating boys against the types of HPV associated with cervical cancer might also help protect girls from the virus by possibly decreasing transmission.

Recommendations for HPV vaccination are:

1. **Children and adults ages 9 through 26 years.** HPV vaccination is routinely recommended at age 11 or 12 years; vaccination can be started at age 9 years. HPV vaccination is recommended for all persons through age 26 years who were not adequately vaccinated earlier.
2. **Adults age 27 through 45 years.** Although the HPV vaccine FOOD AND ADMINISTRATION (FDA) approved to be given through age 45 years, HPV vaccination is not recommended for all adults ages 27 through 45 years. Instead, ACIP recommends that clinicians consider discussing with their patients in this age group who were not adequately vaccinated earlier whether HPV vaccination is right for them. HPV vaccination in this age range provides less benefit because more people have already been exposed to the virus.

Therefore the study was done to assess the knowledge about HPV vaccine among female high school students at selected high schools Chennai. The objectives of the study were to assess the knowledge about HPV vaccine among female high school students and to associate knowledge of HPV vaccine with their selected demographic variables of students

2. Materials & Methods

An evaluative research approach was adopted for the study. The research design used in this study is Non-Experimental- Descriptive research design. The accessible population of the present study is high schoolchildren from 10^{th} to 12^{th} std selected high schools at Chennai district. Sample of the study was 60 were selected by using simple random sampling technique. Structured interview schedule was used for data collection. Interview was conducted between 9:00 am to 3 pm depending upon the availability of the sample. As the study aimed at evaluating the existing level of knowledge, the researcher was Constructed demographic variables to perform, & structured interview schedule was formed to Assess the level of knowledge on HPV vaccine among female high school students.

The study aimed at assess the existing level of knowledge, the researcher was constricted demographic variables perform and knowledge assess questionaries formed to assess the level of knowledge on HPV vaccine among female high school students. The researcher has planned to collect data from knowledge influencing human papilloma virus among female high school children and demographic data from high school students. The demographic data includes age, religion, parent's educational status, Parents occupation and monthly income, details of siblings and source of information. The corresponding answers obtained are marked on the data sheet by the researcher.

3. Results:

The result showed that 40% of girls were having inadequate knowledge, 40% were having moderate knowledge of students and 14% of students having adequate knowledge. the is significant association of knowledge towards human papilloma virus vaccination among female high school students with demographical variables like age, parents' educational status, parents occupational status, parents monthly income and have an older sister. But there is no significant association between knowledge towards human papilloma virus vaccine among female high school

students with demographic variable like religion and source of information of human papilloma virus vaccine.

Study Findings:

- Majority 22(36.6%) were belong to the age between 17 and above years, 18 (30%) of them between 15-17 years, 12 (20%) of them are between 14-15 years, 8 (13.3%) of them between 16-17 years.
- Majority 20 (33.3%) were belong to the religion between Hindu and Muslim, 16 (26.6%) of them between christian, 4 (6.6%) of them between others.
- Majority 24 (40%) were belong to the complete primary high school, 17 (28.3%) of them between illiterate, 13 (21.6%) of them between complete secondary school,6(10%) of them between diploma and above.
- Majority 25(41.6%) were belong to the governmental employee, 11 (18.3%) of them between non-government employee and daily labor, 7 (11.6%) of them between merchant, 3(5%) of them between others.
- Majority24 (40%) were belong to the monthly income 15000-25000, 21 (35%) of them belong to the 10000-15000,8(13.3 %) of them belongs to the 25000-35000Rs, 7 (11.6%) of them belongs to the 35000 and above.
- Majority 34 (56.6%) were belong to the older sisters, 26(43.3%) of them between no older sisters.
- Majority 16 (26.6%) were belongs to the source of information to the internet, 15 (25%) of them media, 10 (16.6%) of them teacher, 9 (15%) of them parents, 8 (13.3%) of them peers, 2 (3.3%) of them book or magazine.
- The major result showed that 40% of girls were having inadequate knowledge, 40% were having moderate knowledge of students and 14% of students having adequate knowledge.
- Regarding association there is significant association of knowledge towards human papilloma virus vaccination among female high school students with demographical variables like age, parents' educational status, parents occupational status, parents monthly income and have an older sister. But there is no significant association between knowledge towards human papilloma virus vaccine among female high school students with demographic variable like religion and source of information of human papilloma virus vaccine

4. Discussion:

The high prevalence, mode of transmission, association with cervical cancer and availability of effective vaccines all have made Human Papillomavirus (HPV) a significant virus and of public health importance. The CDC recommends that all 11- and 12-year-olds receive two doses of HPV vaccine at least six months apart. Younger adolescents ages 9 and 10 and teens ages 13 and 14 also can receive vaccination on the two-dose schedule. Research has shown that the two-dose schedule is effective for children under 15.

Teens and young adults who begin the vaccine series later, at ages 15 through 26, should receive three doses of the vaccine. The CDC recommends catch-up HPV vaccinations for all people through age 26 who are not adequately vaccinated. The government should take initiative in the promotion of vaccination to prevent the spread of HPV infection, thereby can able to reduce the cause of cervical cancer.

5. Conclusion:

- The overall knowledge and attitude toward HPV vaccine were relatively low compared to previous researches. Parents' educational status, participating in high school mini-media, students who have a smartphone, availability of radio or TV at home, and preferred media as a source of information predictors were significantly associated with knowledge toward HPV vaccine. All concerned bodies should work jointly to enhance knowledge and attitudes of female students toward HPV vaccine.
- We have conducted a research topic on a study to assess knowledge on human papilloma virus vaccine among female high school students in selected high school at Chennai district, Tamil Nadu, India.

Conflict Of Interest:

Nil

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