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Improving HPV vaccine initiation in 9-10 year-old patients at a residency-based pediatrics clinic

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Up-to-date HPV Vaccination Coverage by Year among Adolescents age 13-17 years, National Immunization Survey - Teen





- What age should children receive HPV vaccination?
 - "The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) routinely recommends HPV vaccination at age 11 or 12 years; vaccination <u>can be given starting at age 9</u> years."
 - "The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) recommends starting the series
 between 9 and 12 years, at an <u>age that the</u> <u>provider deems optimal</u> for acceptance and completion of the vaccination series"









Younger age at initiation of the Human Papillomavirus (HPV) vaccination series is associated with higher rates of on-time completion

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- •Retrospective study in population-based cohort of children and adolescents in Olmsted County, MN (n = 36,223)
- •adolescents who <u>started the HPV vaccine series at age 9 or 10</u> were **22 times more likely to complete the two-dose series by age 15** than those who initiated the series at age 11 or 12 (p<.001)

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Aim Statement

Improve the rate of ECU pediatrics' patients who initiate the HPV vaccine at their age 9 or 10 well visit to 50%

Collaborative Team Members

- Shaundreal Jamison, Medical Director
- Sandy Goff, Nurse manager
- Tracey Findling, Nurse manager
- Betsy Heath, Patient Access Services manager
- Grant O'Brien, medical student



Parental surveys

• Selected questions taken from validated Parental Attitudes toward Childhood Vaccines survey instrument



Figure 2: Parental agreement levels with ideas about vaccines (n = 39)



Agree or strongly agree % Unsure % Disagree or strongly disagree

How will we know this change is an improvement?

• Measures:

•Primary: percentage of 9-10 year-old patients who presented for their well visit and were documented as being offered and/or receiving the HPV vaccine (data source: chart review)

•Secondary: percentage of all patients affiliated with ECU Pediatrics clinic who have received at least 1 dose of HPV vaccine (data source: North Carolina Immunization Registry (NCIR))





NCIR HPV vaccine initiation data: 9/8/21

	# received <u>></u> 1 HPV vaccine	Total # patients	% received <u>></u> 1 HPV vaccine
Age 9-10	41	2679	1.5%
Age 11-18	7021	11441	61.4%



Improvement Strategies Employed

PDSA cycles:

- 1. Nursing staff was educated on best practices for effectively counseling parents about HPV vaccine
- 2. Visual reminders were posted for office medical assistants to mark 9-10 year-old patients as being due for the HPV vaccine
- Pediatric residents underwent brief education on vaccine counseling and rationale for initiating at younger ages
- 4. Flyers visible to patients and providers were posted on exam room doors





Outcomes



Outcomes



Challenges Encountered in QI Process

- NCIR only lists children as due for HPV vaccine once they turn 11

- 9-10 year-old well visits are relatively infrequent

- No visual reminders for vaccines in the EHR



Lessons Learned

- Failure to offer the vaccine, rather than parents declining the vaccine, was the primary limiting factor of the impact
- Even before educational interventions, parents had largely positive views of HPV vaccine and immunizations in general
- Minor interventions can modestly improve the overall HPV vaccination initiation rate in 9-10 year-olds in a manner that should substantially increase completed HPV vaccination rates as they age into teenagers
- By involving all team members in the clinic in the project, culture of offering HPV vaccine to 9-10 year-old patients gradually became common practice
- Altering the state's immunization registry to automatically flag children as "due" for the HPV vaccine starting at age 9 could be the intervention with the most potential for impact statewide



- Advocate for NCIR to modify due date for HPV to age 9
- continue to monitor NCIR HPV vaccine initiation data



Questions?

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