

Highlights from the collaboration between the public health department and community organizations to reduce the risk of human papillomavirus (HPV) infection and prevent cervical cancer

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Background

HPV is the highest sexually transmitted infection

- 80 million cases per year
- 1 in 4 teens are affected
- Hispanics have higher rates of HPV cancers
- Low HPV vaccination rates

Methods

In 2018, a collaborative project with community organizations was implemented to expand clinic services by administering immunization services at various settings throughout the city:

- School nurse coordinated events at middle and high school facilities
- College campuses
- Recreational centers
- Faith-based organizations
- Health fairs

Other strategic methods of identifying and referring participants to HPV immunization services include:

- Review of immunization status during STD testing visits and administering vaccine
- Using a voucher system to track referrals from schools and community organizations
- Mobile onsite vaccination events conducted by clinicians and health education specialists
- **Tailored health messaging for teenagers**

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

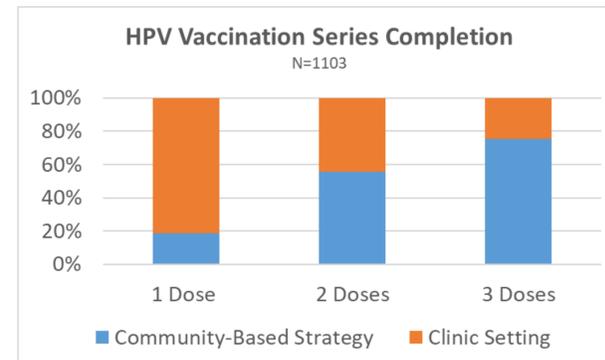
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El Paso's Health Department Improves HPV Vaccination Rates Among Adolescents With Community-Based Strategies

Findings

- Priority population when vaccine is most effective, teenagers 13-19 years of age
- Predominantly Hispanic, low-income uninsured
- 1,103 participants were screened and assessed for uptake of HPV vaccination
- 41% return rate for second HPV vaccination
- 13% more of participants complete entire HPV vaccination series



Conclusion

- The community synergy has connected participants with a variety of preventive health resources in the community.
- Projects that connect uninsured or low-income populations to subsidized services should include plan to offer services at nearby community settings.
- Follow-up, transportation services, extended service hours should be considered for future approaches.



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