

Assessing the knowledge, attitudes and acceptability of human papilloma virus vaccination among primary school girls in Minakulu sub-county

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Cervical cancer is a serious health concern in Uganda as it represents the most common cancer, found only in females and usually affects women of middle age or older. Cervical cancer can be prevented by early vaccination and avoidance of other risks or cured when managed early by screen and treat. It is on a rise in sub-Saharan Africa as the most prevalent and incident cancer among the whole population. There could be knowledge gap and or different attitudes leading to low acceptability rates of cervical cancer vaccination among primary school girls aged 9 years and in Minakulu sub-county primary schools.

A cross-sectional study was conducted on primary school girls of 9 and above years about their knowledge, attitudes and acceptability of HPV vaccination in the subcounty of Minakulu in Oyam District, Northern Uganda. Systematic sampling was employed using school enrolment registers, and the participants from each primary school will be proportional to the eligible girls in that school. Semi structured questionnaires shall be administered to participants. Quantitative data shall be entered and analyzed using SPSS 17.0. whereas qualitative data shall be manually analyzed and summarized in themes.

There is inadequate knowledge about cancer vaccination. The study is intended to provide information upon which policies will be made to provide comprehensive vaccination of these girls against cervical cancer concentrating on the knowledge, attitudes and acceptance of the vaccine currently being administered by Ministry of Health, Republic of Uganda and areas in the world highly affected by cervical cancer.

Biography

Namanya Vian Katagwa has completed 4th year bachelor's degree in Human Medicine and Surgery at Gulu University. He also has 1 year experience in community health, project management and rural research in Uganda at the age of 23. He has not yet published any papers but he has been invited for the European Cancer Prevention Annual Meeting in Belgium and also to publish his research in the European Journal of Cancer Prevention. He is currently a principal investigator with Medical Students Research Association.

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