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The perceptions of Hong Kong male college students refusing HPV vaccination: An exploratory study**Lai Hang Wong, Yunn Yu Chan, Yuen Yee Ho, Cheuk Chee Jasmine Li**
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Background: Human Papillomavirus (HPV) is a group of viruses and is a common Sexually Transmitted Infection (STI). HPV infection is well-recognized as a causative agent in cervical cancer. More than 270 000 deaths from cervical cancer are estimated worldwide every year. In Hong Kong, the incidence rate of having cervical cancer was 12.1 per 100 000 female population in 2014. However, the vaccination rate in Hong Kong is lower than that in other countries. Male HPV vaccination rate was significantly lower than that of the female in Hong Kong. Exploring the perceptions of male college students refusing HPV vaccination, therefore, could add the body of knowledge for facilitating the local government to establish a comprehensive health promotion campaign related to HPV vaccination among the male adults in Hong Kong.

Study Design: Exploratory qualitative design.

Aim: To explore the perceptions of refusing HPV vaccination among male college students in Hong Kong.

Method: 20 participants participated in the face-to-face interviews. Unstructured interview with audio-tape was adopted to identify the reasons for refusing HPV vaccines among Hong Kong male college students. All interview tapes were used to transcribe and the coding process was used to categorize the themes.

Results: The qualitative findings identified six major themes of the perceptions of refusing HPV vaccination among male participants including: (1) Lack of perceived risk, (2) knowledge deficit, (3) inadequate promotion, (4) price of HPV vaccine, (5) inconvenience to receive the HPV vaccine and (6) peer influence.

Conclusion: The present findings suggest that promotion about the importance of HPV vaccination for males may not be adequate in the local context. More promotions on males should be launched in order to increase the HPV vaccination among the male adults in Hong Kong for the prevention of HPV infection.

Biography

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