

Tablet-based patient education regarding Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) vaccination for patients in colposcopy clinic - A prospective study of patient knowledge and satisfaction

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Objective: The aim of the study is to assess the efficacy of electronic tablet-based education regarding human papilloma virus infection and prophylactic vaccination among women presenting for their initial appointment in a specialized pap smear evaluation clinic.


Methods: A prospective study was conducted of all new patients presenting to the pap smear evaluation clinic. Each new patient was approached by a patient navigator and, if willing to participate, took a 4 question pre-test and then completed an education module on the electronic tablet followed by a 5 question post-test. The questions and module focused on the pathogenesis of cervical abnormalities and the connection between HPV and cervical cancer. All materials were available in both English and Spanish.

Results: Between June 2017 and December 2017 118 patients voluntarily participated in the tablet education. One-hundred and nine patients (92%)

were English speaking. Following the tablet education, 108 (92%) of women identified cervical cancer as a problem that can be caused by HPV, as compared to 104 women (88%) in the pre-test. Knowledge of head and neck cancer as a problem that could be caused by HPV was also increased from 10% to 77%. Before the module, 76% of women answered that they would definitively recommend the HPV vaccine for a child in their family. In the post-test 83% of women answered "definitely would". Eighty-nine percent of patients rated the tablet module as "extremely" or "very" helpful.

Conclusions: Tablet-based education improves patient knowledge of HPV-associated cancers and is feasible in an outpatient clinic setting.

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