

Receptiveness to Human Papilloma Virus Vaccine Counseling and Administration During Dental Visits

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Background

- Despite efforts to increase human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccinations, the vaccination rates remain below the Healthy People 2030 target of 80% compliance.
- The American Dental Association urges oral health providers (OHP) to support the use and administration of the HPV vaccine.
- Children aged nine years and older have more visits with OHPs than physicians per year.

Objectives

- This project aims to understand the parents' perspectives in discussing and receiving HPV vaccines during a visit with an OHP in a clinic implementing medical-dental integration for HPV vaccination.

Figure 1: The percent of patients who reported wanting to discuss the (A) HPV Vaccine and (B) its side effects

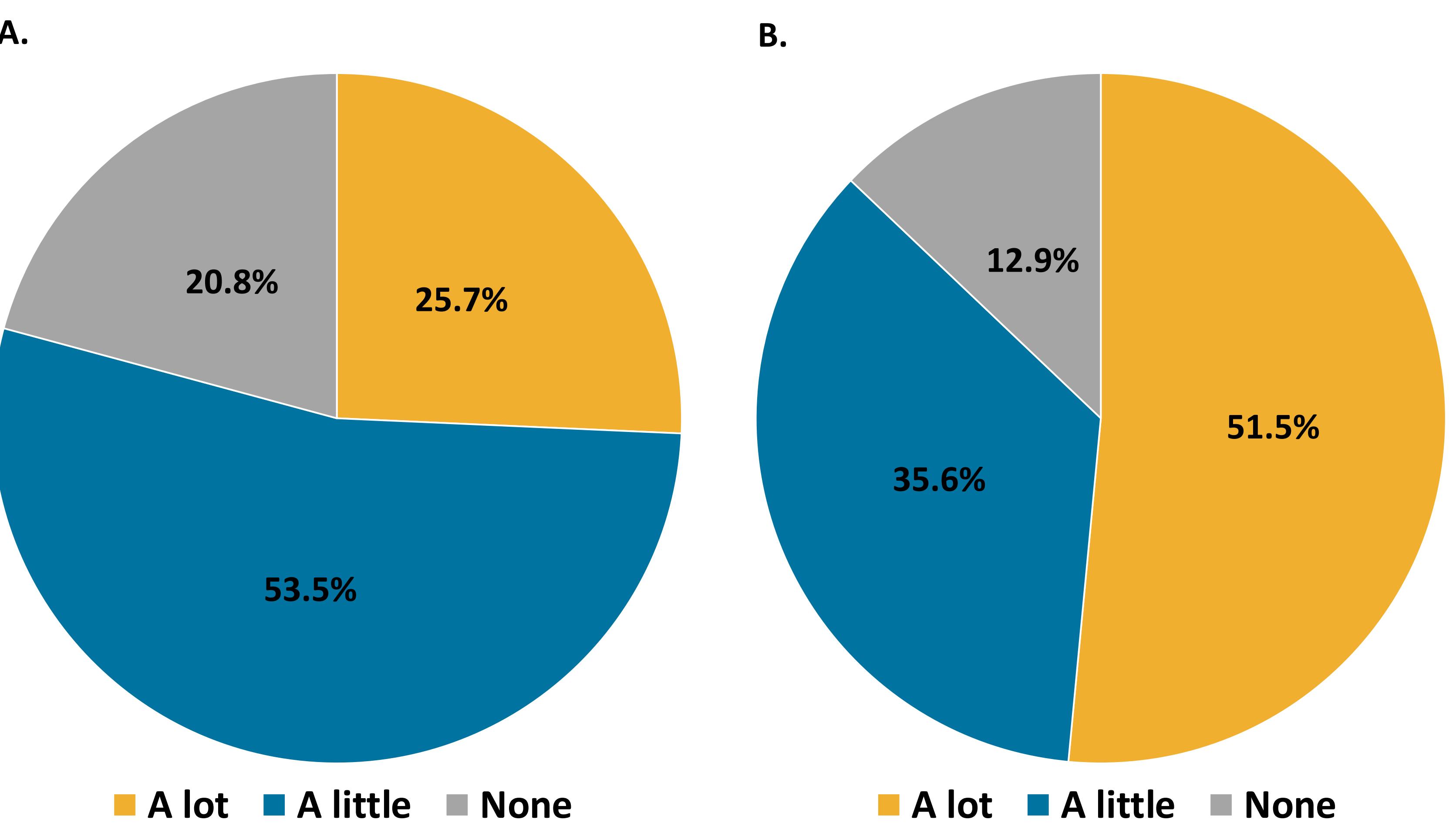


Figure 2: The percent of patients who reported (A) counseling of HPV vaccine and (B) their decision to vaccinate

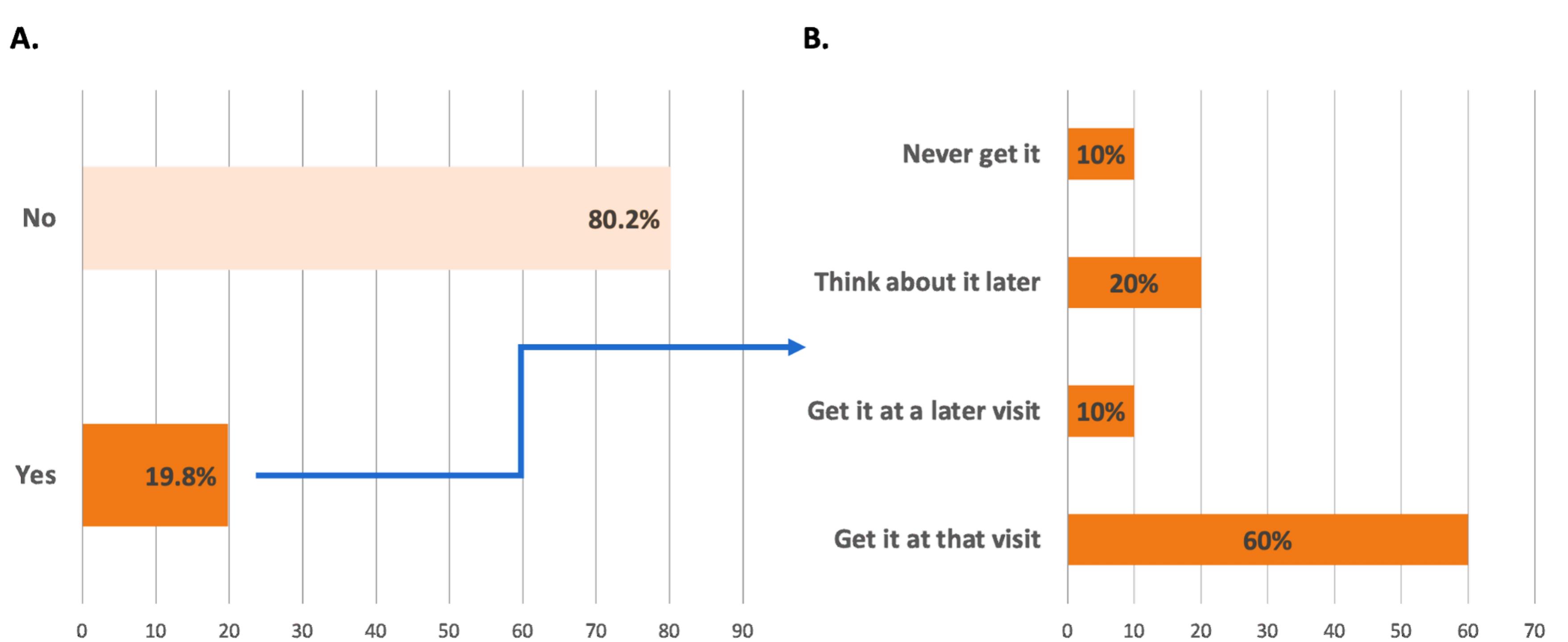
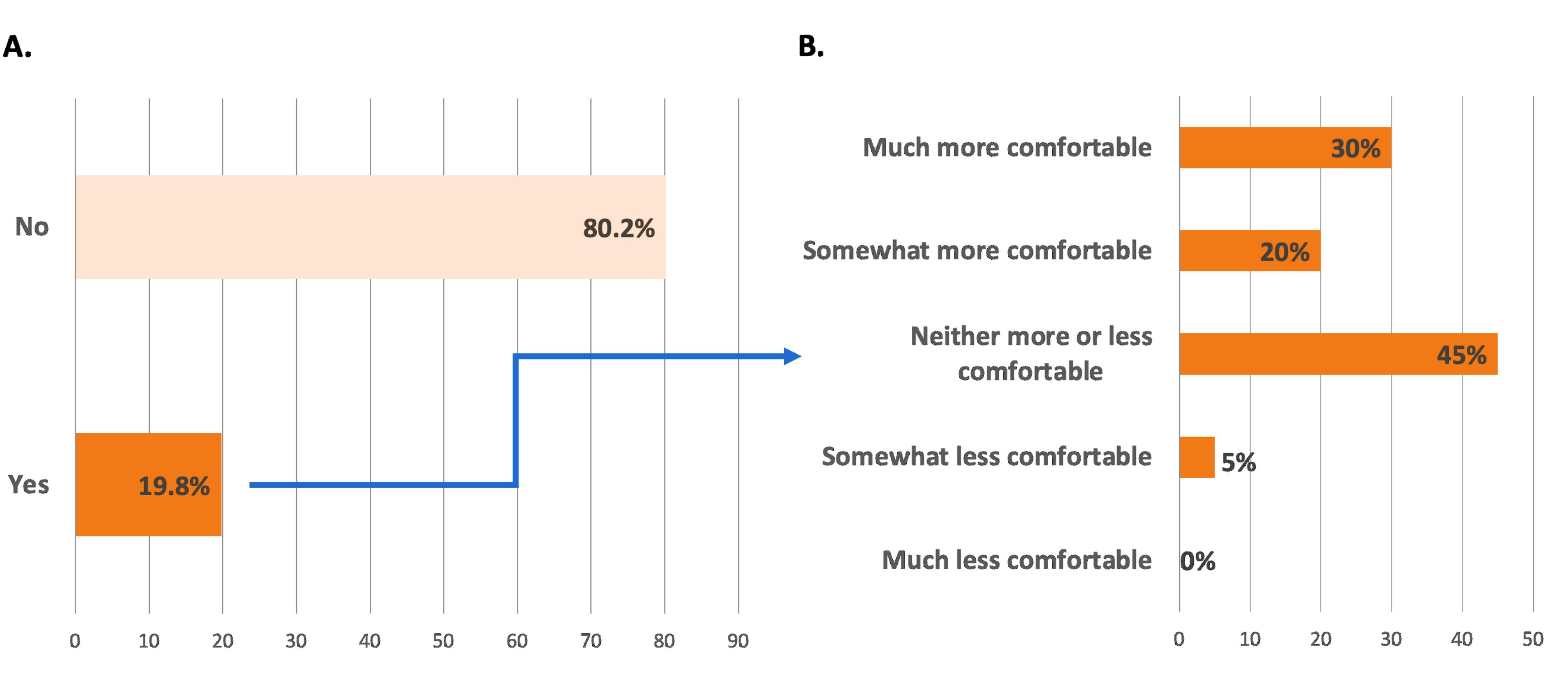


Figure 3: The percent of patients who reported (A) counseling of HPV vaccine during dental visits and (B) their comfort level



What is HPV?
Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) is a very common infection. It spreads from skin-to-skin contact. Almost everyone will have HPV at some point in their life.

Why get vaccinated?
The vaccine can prevent 90 percent of the cancers caused by HPV.

YOUR DOCTOR & DENTIST ARE NOW WORKING TOGETHER TO MEET ALL YOUR HEALTH NEEDS!

References:

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- Shah, P.D., Calo, W.A., Gilkey, M.B., Boynton, M.H., Alton Dailey, S., Robichaud, M., Margolis, M.A., Brewer, N.T. (In Press). Questions and concerns about HPV vaccine: A communication experiment. *Pediatrics*.

Design/Methods

- A 42-item validated survey was adapted from the UNC National Parents Survey (2017) and administered to parents (N=101) of patients ages 9-17.
- Participants were selected via convenience sampling and surveyed after dental appointments in integrated healthcare clinics at a large, urban, federally qualified healthcare center.
- Data was reported on a 3-5 Likert scale and then analyzed.

Results

- 44.3% (N=101) of all eligible patients were surveyed. 79.2% and 87.1% of parents report wanting to discuss the HPV vaccine and side effects, respectively, with OHPs (figure 1).
- 19.8% of parents surveyed reported being counseled on the HPV vaccine during their dental visit. Of the families who were counseled, 60.0% opted for same-day vaccination (figure 2), and 95.0% of families reported feeling "more comfortable" or "neither more or less comfortable" with their OHP after vaccine counseling (figure 3).

Conclusions

- This project provides insights into the potential for OHPs to promote the HPV vaccine and increase vaccination rates. Parents are receptive to vaccine discussions during dental visits – highlighting the need for OHPs to prioritize these discussions.
- This project also emphasizes the importance of addressing parents' concerns and educating them about the benefits of the HPV vaccine. These discussions overall increase same-day vaccinations and confidence in their OHPs.
- Overall, this project suggests that discussions about the HPV vaccine during dental visits can have a significant impact on parents' willingness to vaccinate their children. By taking advantage of this opportunity, OHPs can help to improve public health outcomes and prevent certain types of cancer. These findings can help inform public health initiatives to increase vaccination rates and reduce the incidence of HPV associated cancers.