

# Usability of a Simulation-based HPV Learning Experience for Dental Providers

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#### **PURPOSE**

Assess dental provider knowledge, skills and attitudes regarding discussion of the Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) and the HPV vaccine with adolescent patients and their guardians during routine dental visits.

Determine the usability and feasibility of a virtual simulation based Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) and HPV Vaccine learning experience for dental providers.

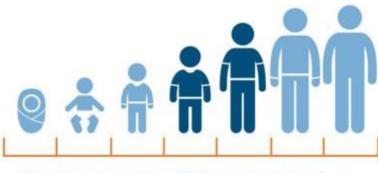
### **BACKGROUND**

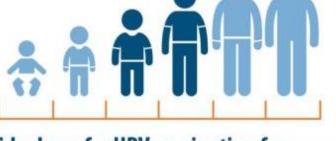
- **HPV** causes cancer.

HPV causes the majority (70%) of oropharyngeal cancer (cancer of the throat, tongue, or tonsils) in both men and women in the US.

- HPV = most common sexually transmitted infection in the US
- About half of new HPV infections occur in people ages 15-24 years old
- 2014 2018: Oropharyngeal cancer was most common HPV associated cancer
- HPV vaccines have been shown to be over 95% effective at preventing infection of HPV types covered by the vaccine
- Both the AAPD and ADA encourage dental providers to discuss HPV and the HPV vaccine with adolescent patients and their guardians

# When to get protected:











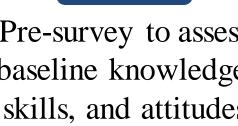
Boys and girls who receive the HPV vaccine prior to age 15 only need two doses. If starting after age 15, the HPV vaccination is given in three doses.

## **METHODS**



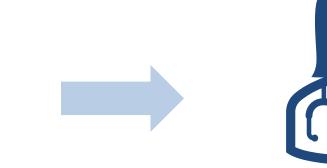
16 Pediatric Dentistry Residents







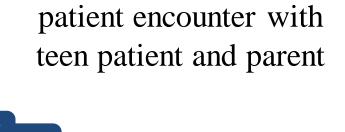
Pre-survey to assess baseline knowledge, skills, and attitudes



1st telehealth standardized

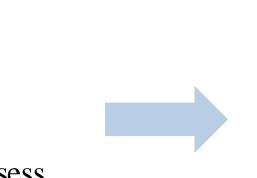


Self-paced HPV virtual learning module





Post-survey to assess 2nd telehealth standardized changes in knowledge, patient encounter with teen skills, and attitudes with patient and parent qualitative comments from learners



Pre and post survey results compared using paired wilcoxon signed rank text

Dental providers lack the knowledge, skills and attitudes to confidently discuss HPV and the HPV vaccine with adolescent patients and their guardians.

Virtual learning experiences are an accessible and effective way to significantly improve dental providers knowledge, skills, and attitudes related to discussions about HPV and the HPV vaccine with adolescent patients and their guardians.

"I feel now that it is more important for a dentist to discuss HPV vaccination with parents and families. They may not hear it from anyone else and as a pediatric dentist, we see young children and can talk about it prior to the age of 15." -Study Participant

"Bringing up awkward topics is hard and doesn't feel like the dentists' role. But when you consider and discuss the possible consequences of HPV in the oropharyngeal region it becomes more important" -Study Participant

#### RESULTS

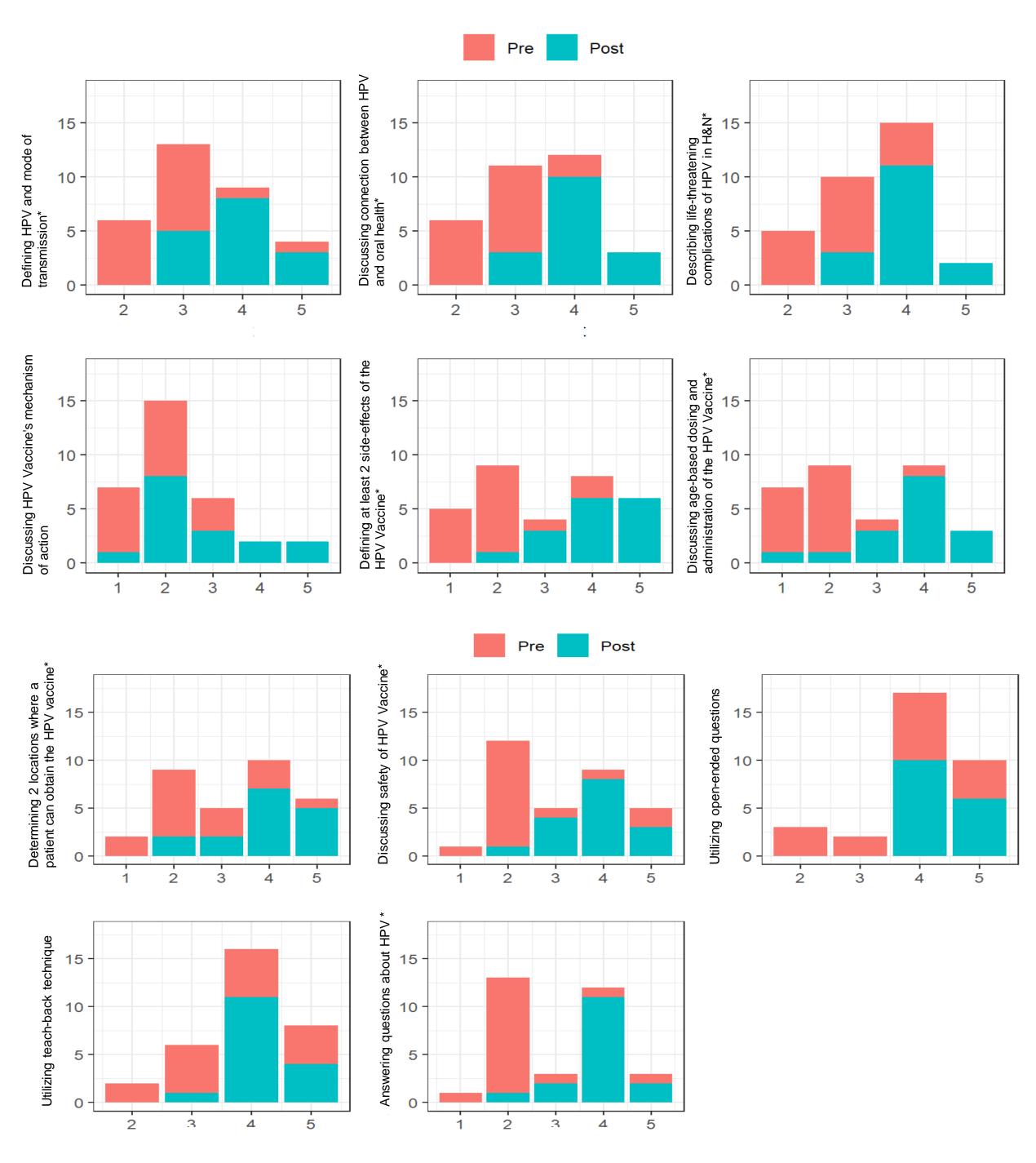


Figure 1. Results of pre and post survey results. Pre-survey responses in red and post-survey responses in green per number of residents. 1 not at all confident, 2 low confidence, 3 somewhat confident, 4 confident, 5 very confident. We see a significant difference in responses between pre and post survey results for all questions except question on discussing the HPV vaccine's mechanism of action (p-value = 0.088 > 0.05), utilizing open ended questions (adjusted p-value = 0.7304 > 0.05), and utilizing the teach back technique (adjusted p-value = 1). All other responses had significant difference between pre and post at significance level  $\alpha = 0.05$  noted with an \*.

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