

# Finding Limits to HPV Vaccinations in a Community Clinic

Agha Y. MD, Ali F., MD, Aldrete D., MD; Bobadilla, R.; Crutcher E. MD, Davila A., MD, Del Rosario, A., MD, Estacio M. MD, Fesseha, A., MD, Gomez A; Gonzales J. MA, Hadi R., MD, Herman S., MD, Lacsina P., MD, Lang E., MD, Lopez G., MD, Myers R. MD, Montanez M., MD, Morales-Campos D., PhD, Okpoko L. MHA, Oo S. MD, Parra-Medina D., PhD, Perez J. MD, Philip T., MD, Rabago M. MD, Sathe, SS; Shelton P., MD, Singer A., DO, Smith J., MD, Johnson K., MD, Vadivelu T. MD, Vasquez, A. MD, MD; Wiemers M. MD, Winkler P., MEd, Wood R., DrPH

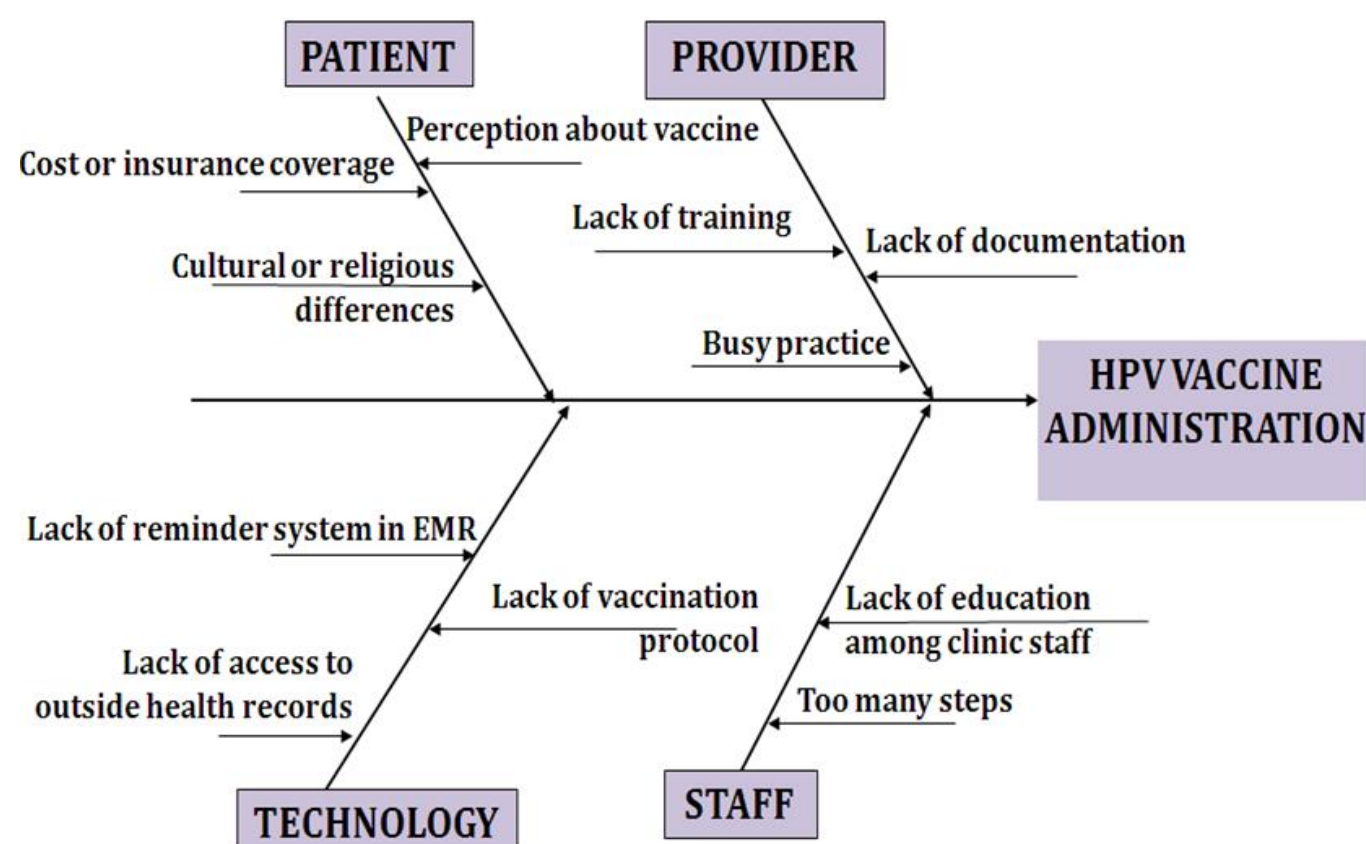
## BACKGROUND

Human Papillomavirus (HPV) is the most common sexually transmitted infection in the United States. This virus can cause deadly cancers.

HPV vaccination is available for females and males, and is recommended to be given at age 11 or 12. Studies have shown that the vaccine can reduce HPV infection rates in teens by half and can prevent cancer. However, many still do not get the HPV shot.

## PURPOSE

We wanted to know what keeps people from getting the HPV vaccine. A model for this project is shown below.



## MATERIALS AND METHODS

**DESIGN:** Cross sectional study design

**SETTING:** The Family Health Center (FHC) is a family medicine residency training site in downtown San Antonio, Texas.

**PARTICIPANTS:** Patients (aged 11-26) and doctors were surveyed at the FHC.

**MATERIAL:** Pre-set questionnaire

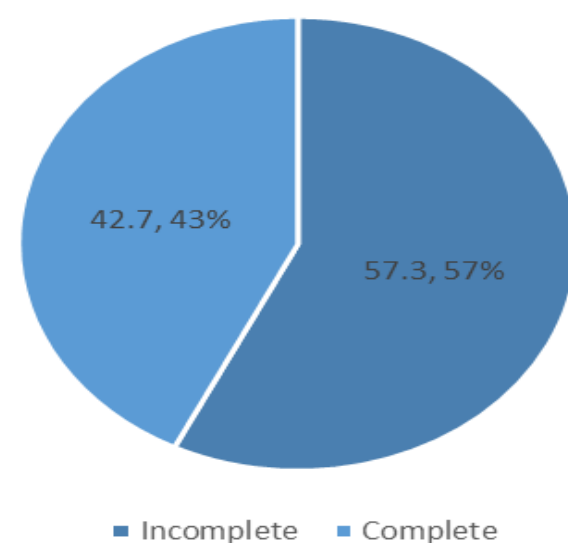
**METHOD:** Patients and doctors were questioned about their beliefs and attitudes towards HPV vaccination.

## RESULTS

- Responses were recorded from 246 patient charts. Of these, 51% were male; 49% were female. Of the males, 33.1% had completed the vaccination series, compared with 52.9% of the female patients.
- Ethnicity breakdown of patients: 50.8% white; 44.3% Hispanic; 3.3% African-American; 1.6% Asian
- Age groups: 23.2% were 11-13 y/o; 44.6% were 14-16 y/o; 28.3% were 17-19 y/o; 3.9% were 20+
- Insurance status of patients included no insurance (10.2%), either Medicaid or CHIP (22.8%), private insurance (22.8%), and CareLink (44.3%).

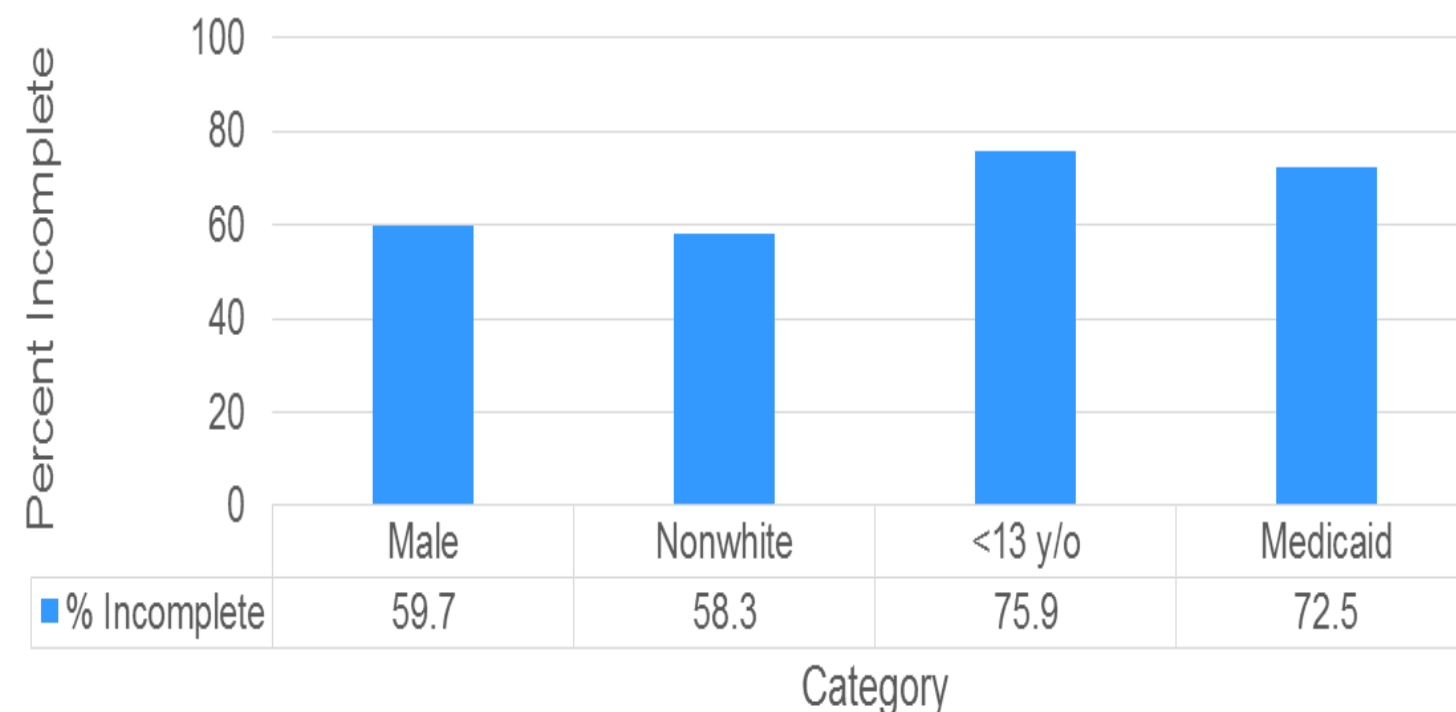
The pie graph below shows the percent of patients who completed all 3 shots vs those who did not complete.

Percent Complete Vs. Incomplete



The graph below shows percentages of incomplete vaccination rates, by category.

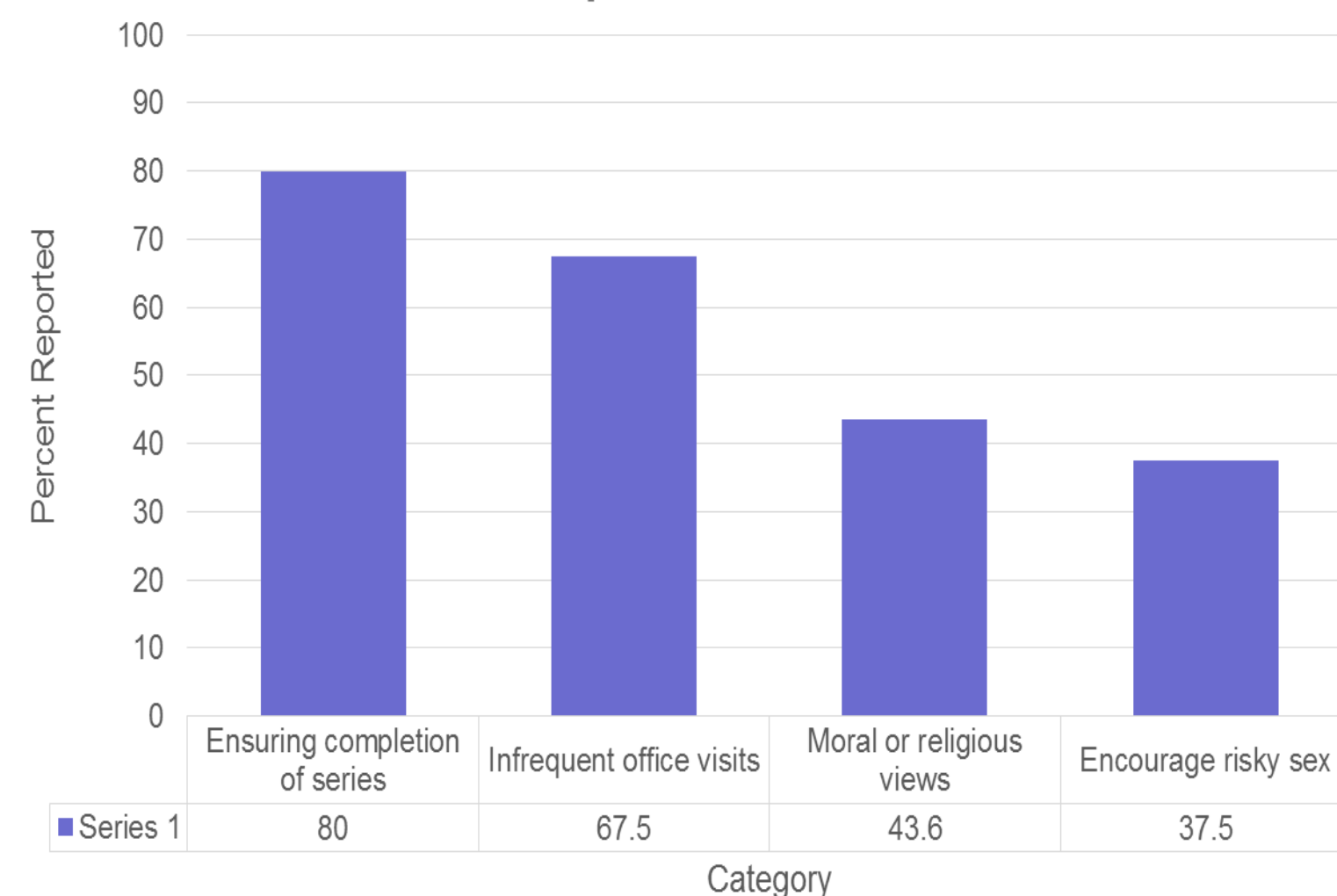
Percentage of Incomplete HPV Vaccines by Category



## Provider-Reported Perceived Barriers

The average age of providers was 33.1 years (min 25; max 58). Of the providers, 76.2% were female and 23.8% male; 83.3% were residents, and 16.7% were attending physicians

Provider-Reported Perceived Barriers



## DISCUSSION

Results show that 57.3% of children had not finished the HPV vaccination series. Most of these children were 13 years old or under. Males had lower rates of completion than females at 33.1% versus females at 52.9%. African-Americans and Asians were noted to have the lowest rate of completion of HPV vaccination, at 37.5% and 25% respectively. Those on Medicaid had the lowest completion rate at 27.5%. Our findings match those of prior studies on this topic.

## RESOURCES

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. "Genital HPV infection-fact sheet." Human Papilloma Virus (HPV). Updated March 20, 2014.  
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