Identification Level of Awareness and Knowledge of Emirati Men about HPV

Suzan Al Shdefat 1,2, Shamsa Al Awar 3, Nawal Osman 4, Howaida Khair, 5 Gehan Sallam, 6 and Sara Maki 7

1 Faculty of Medicine, Jordan University of Science and Technology, Irbid, Jordan
2 Consultant Gyn-Oncologist, King Abdullah University Hospital, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia
3 Chair of Obstetrics & Gynecology Department, College of Medicine & Health Sciences (CMHS), United Arab Emirates University (UAEU), Al Ain, UAE
4 Medical Research Specialist I Obstetrics and Gynecology Department, CMHS, UAEU, Al Ain, UAE
5 Obstetrics & Gynecology Department, CMHS, UAEU, Al Ain, UAE
6 Clinical Research Nurse Obstetrics and Gynecology Department, CMHS, UAEU, Al Ain, UAE
7 Medical Research Assistant, CMHS, UAEU, Al Ain, UAE

Correspondence should be addressed to Suzan Al Shdefat; sialshdefat@just.edu.jo and Shamsa Al Awar; sawar@uaeu.ac.ae

Received 13 February 2022; Revised 1 March 2022; Accepted 7 March 2022; Published 20 March 2022

Academic Editor: Deepak Garg

Copyright © 2022 Suzan Al Shdefat et al. This is an open access article distributed under the Creative Commons Attribution License, which permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original work is properly cited.

One of the most frequent cancers that affects males globally is cervical cancer (CC) that kills hundreds or even thousands of women each year, particularly in underdeveloped nations. The study focuses on human papillomavirus (HPV) that contributes to cervical cancer (CC) development. In the majority of Arab nations, there seems to be no public education or vaccination programs. In research, methodological rigor is employed to find solutions to both theoretical and practical difficulties. This research aims to assess the knowledge and awareness of the HPV vaccination among Emirati men. Results of the research showed that Emirati males had a poor understanding of HPV and its vaccination. According to the findings of this research, Emirati males lack a basic understanding of HPV, which necessitates the implementation of national HPV education initiatives. We have identified several critical knowledge gaps that can be filled in the future regarding HPV infection and vaccination.

1. Introduction

The human papillomavirus (HPV) is widespread in the United States, and the majority of sexually active persons will get the virus over their lifetime [1]. Chronic oropharyngeal cancer has been associated with genital and anogenital, including oropharyngeal cancer in both men and women who have had persistent oncogenic infections. Most anal and penile cancers are assumed to be caused by HPV (90 percent), which accounts for 70% of vulvar and 60% of penile cancers, according to current estimates. Oropharyngeal carcinoma is expected to surpass cervical cancer in incidence by 2020, making it one of the top 10 most prevalent malignancies in the world [2–4].

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration has authorized and licensed three HPV vaccinations for use as preventative measures. According to current recommendations, the most undervaccinated group is males; nevertheless, a two-dose regimen is currently suggested; yet, vaccination coverage across all eligible categories is still low, with males constituting the most undervaccinated segment of the population. 39.7 percent of females and 21.6 percent of males aged 13 to 17 got all doses inside the series in 2014. As a reference, vaccination rates for females have been shown to range from 60.5% to 91.5% in a number of nations [2, 5, 6].

Research in public health indicates that adoption and uptake of the vaccination are dependent on public awareness and understanding about HPV. A recent study indicated that
only 68% of participants from a representative sample of UAE individuals were aware of HPV and the HPV vaccination [5, 7, 8].

Contrary to popular belief, the bulk of current HPV insight and perception research focuses only on cervical cancer in both men and women. Most people have no idea of the link among HPV and noncervical malignancies, according to studies looking into people’s understanding of noncervical HPV-related health consequences.

There may be substantial consequences for vaccination uptake if more research looks into knowledge and awareness about noncervical HPV-related malignancies, both on its own and in connection to other forms of HPV awareness and knowledge [8]. There are several ways to improve vaccination rates for all children, such as better understanding parents’ knowledge and awareness of noncervical HPV-associated malignancies. Awareness of HPV-associated malignant tumors in humans and the higher risk for anal cancers in men who have intercourse with males may assist men and the parents of boys. The results may be used to build customised educational programs that incorporate information regarding noncervical HPV-associated cancer risks that are most relevant to the intended population. Additional data is needed to support systems-level initiatives that minimize structural obstacles to immunization, screening, and treatment based on results [8–10].

11–12-year-olds are now advised to get the HPV vaccine as a preventative measure, with an option for catch-up vaccinations until the age of 26. This was the recommended upper age limit for HPV immunization until recently. For persons aged 27–45, the FDA authorized HPV immunization in 2018 because of the vaccine’s safety and effectiveness. According to an advisory committee in June 2019, the HPV vaccine may be given to persons aged 27 to 45 years. This advice is based not just on safety and effectiveness, but rather on vaccination effectiveness and cost-efficiency [11, 12].

In the United States, a large percentage of adults are still unvaccinated for HPV, putting them at risk of developing malignancies linked to HPV because of the country’s persistently low HPV vaccination rates among the country’s most important cohort, teenagers, and among catch-up young adults. 15.8 percent of females and 3.2 percent of males between the ages of 27 and 45 have gotten at least one dose of the HPV vaccine, according to the National Health Interview Survey 2017 [13]. According to these recommendations, it may not be necessary to vaccinate everyone in this age group, but rather to have a discussion with their healthcare provider about the possibility of vaccination. A better assessment of adult knowledge and awareness of HPV vaccination might help guide future interventions for this group [14].

The Health Information Nationwide Trends Survey (HINTS), sponsored by the National Cancer Institute (NCI), collects data on how the public uses cancer-related information on a national level. An adult sample in the US has been surveyed using this data source in the past to determine their knowledge and understanding of HPV. Researchers have utilized HINTS to examine discrepancies in HPV understanding and information across racial and gender groups, as well as between men and women and throughout the country. According to previous research based on this dataset, males and non-Hispanic black or Hispanic individuals were equally likely to know about HPV and the HPV vaccination, whereas women were much more likely [15]. A 54-year-old woman in this study’s sample was found to have a low knowledge of HPV. Men were shown to be less knowledgeable of HPV and the HPV vaccination, as well as of the fact that HPV promotes penile, oral, and anal malignancies, in two further investigations. Even while these studies included adults, they did not particularly target those between the ages of 27 and 45, nor did they include covariates such as the frequency with which individuals sought out cancer-related health information or their insurance status. HPV awareness among males aged 27–45 was shown to be lower than among women, although other HPV-related factors were not explored in this study. To better understand how individuals in this age range, who may now be eligible for HPV vaccines as a result of the updated HPV vaccination recommendations, perceive and learn about HPV and HPV vaccines, a wide variety of sociodemographic, healthcare, and cancer-related aspects must be examined [16].

Middle Eastern civilizations and religious conservatism may be seen across the region from Morocco to Saudi Arabia. As a result, this suggests more restrictive sexual practices than those seen in other civilizations [17]. The frequency of sexually transmitted diseases in this area has previously been claimed to be lower than in the rest of the globe because of this cultural background. Sexual behaviors are becoming more permissive as a result of the fast changes in lifestyle brought about by globalization, particularly among younger generations. Sexually transmitted disease rates might be significantly affected by these changes, even in this location [18].

Cervical cancer rates in this area are thought to be lower than those in the rest of the globe, despite the lack of cancer registries. One reason for the change in introducing countrywide cervical cancer prevention initiatives in this region is that despite erroneous incidence numbers, breast cancer was diagnosed as the most frequent disease in women in Algeria and Morocco and the third most prevalent cancer in Tunisia, Qatar, and the United Arab Emirates [19].

There is still a high incidence of cervical cancer in the Arab nations, despite the low prevalence. The launch of a safe and efficient anti-HPV vaccination in the Arab MENA region and the rest of the globe is a fantastic chance to eliminate cervical cancer as well as many other HPV-related illnesses in the region and throughout the world. HPV vaccination was authorized in June 2006 by that of the Food and Drug Administration for primary prevention of the disease. Cervarix, a bivalent HPV vaccination, and Gardasil, a quadrivalent HPV vaccine, are now on the market [20]. It is safe to say that both vaccinations have high effectiveness profiles in reducing HPV infection. Vaccination against HPV is becoming more popular around the world, and it has been approved in more than 150 jurisdictions. As a result, HPV vaccination programs are very unusual in Arab countries, with only one country having successfully
implemented the vaccine via a national program, but very few others planning to do so in the foreseeable future [13]. Anti-HPV immunization in the area has been slowed by a number of problems, including budgetary restrictions, a lack of infrastructure for delivering vaccinations to adolescents, and competition from other high-priority vaccines [21]. A major barrier to widespread use of the anti-HPV vaccination is a lack of political will, which is sometimes explained by cultural or religious concerns. This might restrict the reach of such vaccination campaigns and their effectiveness. The vaccination was well-tolerated in the United Arab Emirates during its first year of use, according to the country’s experience. As a result of an erroneous media campaign stoking fear about the vaccine’s putative side effects, this number dropped to 59% in 2010/2011 [22].

The study contribution finds out whether or not a representative sample of Emirati males was aware of and knowledgeable about HPV. HPV vaccination, awareness and understanding of HPV-associated cervical cancer, knowledge and awareness of noncervical or “other” HPV-associated malignancies, and general HPV awareness and knowledge were all examined in the research. The influence of sociodemographic factors on research and understanding was also examined [22, 23].

1.1. Aim of Research. This study aims at identifying the level of awareness and knowledge of Emirati men about HPV, where they got that information, and what exactly they know about HPV.

2. Methodology

Consider research as a broad phrase that incorporates a diverse array of activities. Methodological rigor is used in research to find answers to both theoretical and practical problems. There are a range of approaches available depending on the goal and context of the study, including the following: descriptive analysis, which focuses on amassing data that establishes the existence of a phenomenon. For instance, applied analysis in product design, design engineering, and policy formulation aims to answer practical questions but also aid decision-making; in theoretical research, on the other hand, research is conducted to pique scientific curiosity rather than to immediately apply findings in real-world applications. For the study topic, qualitative research (e) studies aspects that cannot be quantified and hence cannot be susceptible to estimate and quantitative interpretation. In contrast, quantitative research (f) necessitates extensive use of tools and methodologies [24].

2.1. Study Approach and Strategies. To gather the main data, a quantitative cross-sectional survey was carried out. Quantitative analysis of the primary data was carried out all over the UAE, and with extreme difficulty, we were able to approach men in this study. A total of 389 survey respondents were surveyed, making for a total sample size of 390. Information was gathered via the use of questionnaire surveys.

2.2. Data Analysis. The acquired data was tested, analyzed, and interpreted using IBM SPSS. As a consequence, a descriptive study was used to properly interpret the findings. In qualitative research, the term “interpretivism” is often used by scholars. This study employs a descriptive research strategy. Describing new facts about individuals, events, or behaviors through descriptive analysis is a common method of doing so. The findings and features of any study may be described using descriptive analysis, often known as descriptive research [25].

2.3. Population. The research population or participants in our study are Emirati men.

2.4. Materials/Instruments. This quantitative research was conducted using the primary data. Data were gathered from 389 survey respondents in a sample size of 390, and a questionnaire survey was employed to acquire the data.

3. Results

The present section of the study explains the results of the survey. Looking at Table 1, it can be seen that the total number of samples is 389, upon which the study objectives are relied. The assessment of the respondents’ views on the HPV regarding whether they have ever heard about HPV shows 65% agreement response while the remaining 324 respondents provided a negative response.

Table 2 shows the frequency distribution of the respondents over where they got the information about the HPV, indicating that the Internet is the most viable tool from which respondents get their information. Other than the Internet, it can be seen that advertisement, books, brochure, college, hospitals, and digital media such as twitter can also be effective tools to impart the knowledge about the HPV. The highest frequency can be seen from the online/Internet tools.

In order to assess the opinion of the respondents about the HPV infection, the frequency analysis shows the highest percentage (83.1%) for not applicable, while sexually transmitted disease as indicated in Table 3 shows a percentage of 10.8%. 0.5% of people gave their opinion on airborne infection, while 1.3% of the respondents’ opinion was blood infection.

As shown in Table 4, assessment of the source of infection shows that only 0.3% of people think that disease is sexually transmitted or otherwise transmitted through blood and genetics, while 0.3% of people responded to be infected through wound.

As shown in Table 5, relationship between HPV and other types of cancers shows a 13.3% agreement response and only 1.3% disagreement response.

As shown in Table 6, assessment of whether HPV causes oral cancer shows an 0.8% agreement response and 5.6%
As shown in Table 7, the assessment of whether HPV causes pharyngeal cancer shows only 1% agreement response and 5.6% disagreement response. 6.2% of the respondents do not know at all, while 3.3% of the respondents did not respond at all.

As shown in Table 8, assessment of whether HPV causes tonsillar cancer shows only 0.8% agreement response while 5.6% of the respondents provide disagreement response. Only 6.2% of the respondents did not respond at all, while 83.6% responded with not applicable.

As shown in Table 9, the assessment of whether HPV causes penile cancer shows 4.1% agreement response and 2.3% disagreement response. 6.2% of people do not know while 3.6% did not respond. 83.6% of the responses are not applicable.

As shown in Table 10, the assessment of whether HPV causes perianal cancer shows 3.1% agreement response and 3.3% disagreement response. 6.2% of the respondents do not know, while 3.6% of the respondents did not respond at all out of 389.

As shown in Table 11, the assessment of the respondents’ information on the prevention of the HPV cancer shows a 32.3% agreement response while 9.5% of the respondents show that it cannot be prevented. 50% of the population does not know at all, while 7.9% of the population did not respond at all.

As shown in Table 12, the assessment of whether antibiotics prevent HPV shows that only 3.1% of the respondents provided an agreement response, while 21.3% of the respondents provided a negative response. 1% of the people do not respond, while 6.9% of the people do not know.

As shown in Table 13, the assessment of whether HPV can be prevented through pap smear shows that only 3.6% of the people agreed while 20.8% of the respondents did not agree on the statement.

As shown in Table 14, on evaluating whether HPV can be prevented through regular ultrasound, only 2.8% of the respondents agreed, while 21.5% of the people responded no. 6.9% of the respondents do not know it, while 1% of the population does not respond at all. It can be said that HPV cannot be prevented through regular ultrasound as per reflected through the respondents of the study.

As shown in Table 15, on assessing whether HPV can be prevented by vaccination, 17.2% of the respondents agreed, while 7.2% of the respondents did not agree and gave a negative response. 1% of the population do not respond while 6.9% of the population do not know about it. It can be established from the survey analysis that HPV can be prevented by the vaccination but the vaccine should be taken before the contact of the virus.

4. Discussions

There is a wide range of variation in the general public’s understanding of HPV. Gender, age, education, marital status, wealth, and race were all shown to be linked with previous authors’ estimates of general HPV awareness when looking at sociodemographic variables [26]. It is important to note that gaps in HPV knowledge and awareness persist, especially given the persisting differences in vaccine uptake, overall under-vaccination of susceptible groups in the UAE males, and higher observed prevalence of various HPV-related malignancies among men [27, 28].

All participants had a good understanding of HPV’s relationship with cervical cancer, but they had little idea of the link between HPV and other malignancies. Non-cervical malignancies’ relationship with HPV has not been the subject of comprehensive inquiry or reporting in the research literature to this point. The results reported by the few research that have been published are consistent [29, 30].

Previous studies have consistently indicated that women had higher levels of vaccination understanding and information than men. The results on vaccine understanding and information and gender are in conflict with this. It was shown that being a woman was a significant and favorable predictor of actual vaccine knowledge, but that was only true for males who claimed to have heard of the immunization. Analytical approaches and knowledge categories may be to blame for these differences, according to our hypothesis. Men may have heard about HPV vaccination, but when other sociodemographic criteria are taken into account, it has little influence on real knowledge of HPV vaccine [31].

Considering the importance of vaccine effectiveness, it was surprising to discover that the majority of the respondents did not think the vaccination prevented cervical cancer. Despite no significant differences in the percentage of men and women reporting talking to someone like a doctor about vaccination, women were far more likely than men to have received a doctor’s advice to vaccinate. Vaccination recommendations are more likely to be given to female patients and parents of female children, according to previous studies. A combination of sexism and the fact that the vaccination has only been approved for boys since 2011 may explain the present results [32, 33].

4.1. Implications for Practice. Health education researchers and practitioners may benefit from this study’s results, which are summarized below. First and foremost, there was a lack of understanding and awareness of many elements of HPV, despite continued attempts to do so. Many intervention studies have shown the beneficial impact of receiving information on people’s willingness and ability to become vaccinated. Informational interventions alone may not be adequate for long-term increases in vaccination uptake rates, according to a new comprehensive evaluation.
### Table 2: Frequency distribution of the respondents.

| Source                          | Frequency | Percent | Valid percent | Cumulative percent |
|---------------------------------|-----------|---------|---------------|--------------------|
| Advertisement                   | 1         | 0.3     | 0.3           | 0.3                |
| Books, references, and newspapers| 1         | 0.3     | 0.3           | 0.3                |
| Brochure                        | 1         | 0.3     | 0.3           | 0.3                |
| College                         | 2         | 0.5     | 0.5           | 0.5                |
| College of medicine             | 1         | 0.3     | 0.3           | 0.3                |
| Google                          | 2         | 0.5     | 0.5           | 0.5                |
| Hospital advertisement          | 1         | 0.3     | 0.3           | 0.3                |
| Internet                        | 4         | 1.0     | 1.0           | 1.0                |
| Internet                        | 2         | 0.5     | 0.5           | 0.5                |
| Programs                        | 1         | 0.3     | 0.3           | 0.3                |
| Relatives                       | 1         | 0.3     | 0.3           | 0.3                |
| Social media                    | 1         | 0.3     | 0.3           | 0.3                |
| Social media                    | 1         | 0.3     | 0.3           | 0.3                |
| Studying                        | 1         | 0.3     | 0.3           | 0.3                |
| Tawam Hospital                  | 1         | 0.3     | 0.3           | 0.3                |
| The John Hopkins Hospital       | 1         | 0.3     | 0.3           | 0.3                |
| TV                              | 1         | 0.3     | 0.3           | 0.3                |
| Twitter                         | 1         | 0.3     | 0.3           | 0.3                |
| UAE news                        | 1         | 0.3     | 0.3           | 0.3                |
| University                      | 1         | 0.3     | 0.3           | 0.3                |
| Total                           | 390       | 100.0   | 100.0         | 100.0              |

### Table 3: In your opinion what is (HPV infection).

| Source                          | Frequency | Percent | Valid percent | Cumulative percent |
|---------------------------------|-----------|---------|---------------|--------------------|
| Sexually transmitted disease    | 42        | 10.8    | 10.8          | 10.8               |
| Airborne infection              | 2         | 0.5     | 0.5           | 11.3               |
| Blood infection                 | 5         | 1.3     | 1.3           | 12.6               |
| Others                          | 2         | 0.5     | 0.5           | 13.1               |
| Do not know                     | 12        | 3.1     | 3.1           | 16.2               |
| Missing                         | 2         | 0.5     | 0.5           | 16.7               |
| Not applicable                  | 324       | 83.1    | 83.3          | 100.0              |
| Total                           | 389       | 99.7    | 100.0         |                    |

### Table 4: Q102 Others (source of infection).

| Source                          | Frequency | Percent | Valid percent | Cumulative percent |
|---------------------------------|-----------|---------|---------------|--------------------|
| Sexual transmission, blood, genetics | 1       | 0.3   | 0.3           | 0.3                |
| Wound                           | 1         | 0.3     | 0.3           | 0.3                |
| Total                           | 390       | 100.0   | 100.0         | 100.0              |

### Table 5: Do you think that there is a relationship between HPV and any type of cancer?

| Source                          | Frequency | Percent | Valid percent | Cumulative percent |
|---------------------------------|-----------|---------|---------------|--------------------|
| No                              | 5         | 1.3     | 1.3           | 1.3                |
| Yes                             | 52        | 13.3    | 13.4          | 14.7               |
| No response                     | 8         | 2.1     | 2.1           | 16.7               |
| Not applicable                  | 324       | 83.1    | 83.3          | 100.0              |
| Total                           | 389       | 99.7    | 100.0         |                    |

| Source                          | Frequency | Percent | Valid percent | Cumulative percent |
|---------------------------------|-----------|---------|---------------|--------------------|
| Missing                         | 1         | 0.3     |               |                    |
| Total                           | 390       | 100.0   |               |                    |
of the evidence. Our findings indicate that more HPV education efforts are required. Priority should be given to evaluating the efficacy of educational interventions on their own and in conjunction with other approaches [34, 35].

Another problem was the lack of public awareness and knowledge about the relationship between HPV and other types of HPV-related malignancies. This discovery is especially significant in light of studies indicating that vaccination decision-making might be influenced by personal significance. Individuals and parents are more likely to accept and plan to vaccinate when they have a greater estimation of their own HPV risk and a higher estimation of the vaccine’s advantages. When HPV-related health effects particular to males, such as disproportionate incidence of oropharyngeal cancer and penile cancer, are highlighted, men are more likely to support vaccination uptake. Men and parents of boys may benefit from educational activities that stress the danger of noncervical HPV-associated cancers, according to these data [36].

Noncervical HPV-associated cancer awareness and knowledge are also important for methodological reasons. There has been a lack of emphasis paid to HPV’s relationship

| Table 6: What type of cancer do you think HPV causes (oral)? |
|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Frequency       | Percent         | Valid percent   | Cumulative percent |
| No              | 22              | 5.6            | 5.7             |
| Yes             | 3               | 0.8            | 6.4             |
| Do not know     | 26              | 6.7            | 13.1            |
| No response     | 13              | 3.3            | 16.5            |
| Not applicable  | 325             | 83.3           | 100.0           |
| Total           | 389             | 99.7           | 100.0           |
| Missing System  | 1               | 0.3            |                 |
| Total           | 390             | 100.0          |                 |

| Table 7: What type of cancer do you think HPV causes (pharyngeal)? |
|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Frequency       | Percent         | Valid percent   | Cumulative percent |
| No              | 22              | 5.6            | 5.7             |
| Yes             | 4               | 1.0            | 6.7             |
| Do not know     | 24              | 6.2            | 12.9            |
| No response     | 13              | 3.3            | 16.2            |
| Not applicable  | 326             | 83.6           | 100.0           |
| Total           | 389             | 99.7           | 100.0           |
| Missing System  | 1               | 0.3            |                 |
| Total           | 390             | 100.0          |                 |

| Table 8: What type of cancer do you think HPV causes (tonsillar)? |
|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Frequency       | Percent         | Valid percent   | Cumulative percent |
| No              | 22              | 5.6            | 5.7             |
| Yes             | 3               | 0.8            | 6.4             |
| Do not know     | 24              | 6.2            | 12.6            |
| No response     | 14              | 3.6            | 16.2            |
| Not applicable  | 326             | 83.6           | 100.0           |
| Total           | 389             | 99.7           | 100.0           |
| Missing System  | 1               | 0.3            |                 |
| Total           | 390             | 100.0          |                 |

| Table 9: What type of cancer do you think HPV causes (penile)? |
|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Frequency       | Percent         | Valid percent   | Cumulative percent |
| No              | 9               | 2.3            | 2.3             |
| Yes             | 16              | 4.1            | 6.4             |
| Do not know     | 24              | 6.2            | 12.6            |
| No response     | 14              | 3.6            | 16.2            |
| Not applicable  | 326             | 83.6           | 100.0           |
| Total           | 389             | 99.7           | 100.0           |
| Missing System  | 1               | 0.3            |                 |
| Total           | 390             | 100.0          |                 |
with noncervical HPV-associated malignancies in the current literature. Increased precision in measurement will add to the already existing corpus of information. Noncervical cancer awareness and knowledge may be assessed by including questions on awareness and knowledge [37, 38].

Last but not least, a lack of vaccination awareness and a widespread misconception that the vaccine is ineffective in preventing cervical cancer point to the need of public education on the subject. Interactions between healthcare providers and their patients give an opportunity to dispel common misunderstandings regarding risk, effectiveness, and other important decision-making variables [19]. Patient-provider communication and strong vaccination recommendations seem to have an impact on vaccine uptake. National Immunization Survey–Teen results show that parents vaccinated their daughters more regularly on the suggestion of their health care professionals than they did their sons, according to the 2013 survey. All patients and their parents should be given clear, unambiguous vaccination recommendations by healthcare practitioners. The usual education and education for healthcare personnel should address gender prejudice. It is possible to increase vaccination rates by implementing systems-level methods, such as policy, that make vaccination recommendations routine [19, 37, 39, 40].

| Table 10: What type of cancer do you think HPV causes (perianal)? |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| **Frequency** | **Percent** | **Valid percent** | **Cumulative percent** |
| No | 13 | 3.3 | 3.3 | 3.3 |
| Yes | 12 | 3.1 | 3.1 | 6.4 |
| Do not know | 24 | 6.2 | 6.2 | 12.6 |
| No response | 14 | 3.6 | 3.6 | 16.2 |
| Not applicable | 326 | 83.6 | 83.8 | 100.0 |
| **Total** | **389** | **99.7** | **100.0** | |
| Missing | System | 1 | 0.3 | |
| **Total** | **390** | **100.0** | |

| Table 11: In your opinion, can the cancers caused by HPV be (prevented)? |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| **Frequency** | **Percent** | **Valid percent** | **Cumulative percent** |
| No | 37 | 9.5 | 9.5 | 9.5 |
| Yes | 126 | 32.3 | 32.4 | 41.9 |
| Do not know | 195 | 50.0 | 50.1 | 92.0 |
| No response | 31 | 7.9 | 8.0 | 100.0 |
| **Total** | **389** | **99.7** | **100.0** | |
| Missing | System | 1 | 0.3 | |
| **Total** | **390** | **100.0** | |

| Table 12: How do you think that HPV can be prevented (antibiotics)? |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| **Frequency** | **Percent** | **Valid percent** | **Cumulative percent** |
| No | 83 | 21.3 | 21.3 | 21.3 |
| Yes | 12 | 3.1 | 3.1 | 24.4 |
| Do not know | 27 | 6.9 | 6.9 | 31.4 |
| No response | 4 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 32.4 |
| Not applicable | 263 | 67.4 | 67.6 | 100.0 |
| **Total** | **389** | **99.7** | **100.0** | |
| Missing | System | 1 | 0.3 | |
| **Total** | **390** | **100.0** | |

| Table 13: How do you think HPV can be prevented (pap smear)? |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| **Frequency** | **Percent** | **Valid percent** | **Cumulative percent** |
| No | 81 | 20.8 | 20.8 | 20.8 |
| Yes | 14 | 3.6 | 3.6 | 24.4 |
| Do not know | 27 | 6.9 | 6.9 | 31.4 |
| No response | 4 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 32.4 |
| Not applicable | 263 | 67.4 | 67.6 | 100.0 |
| **Total** | **389** | **99.7** | **100.0** | |
| Missing | System | 1 | 0.3 | |
| **Total** | **390** | **100.0** | |
Interesting about our results is the significant desire to learn more about the vaccination and the readiness to be vaccinated or to have their daughters vaccinated, despite the dearth of understanding about HPV, its causative association with cervical cancer, and the availability of the vaccine. These findings point to a major potential for HPV and cervical cancer education and awareness campaigns. There seems to be a lack of political will for national cervical cancer prevention due to a lack of cultural barriers. On the basis of our results, a vaccination of this kind might be more widely accepted if the general public was more aware of HPV’s importance, danger, and possible problems [39, 41]. A cultural barrier was noted only by 18% of the participants in research done in the one country with an existing national program, suggesting that this explanation was not one of the primary impediments [42]. Countries that want to implement a vaccination program and that consider cervical cancer a public health issue might benefit from these findings. Public expectations are met and vaccine acceptance is maximized when education techniques and interventions focused at boosting awareness and information about HPV and the anti-HPV vaccination are implemented, according to our results [41]. Qualitative findings from this analysis revealed that public trust problems including worries about side effects and safety typically play a role in determining acceptance. Health care providers, particularly students, would also need education and training, since this category showed average anti-HPV acceptance [43]. Cervical cancer education would be a top focus for these existing and future doctors because of their critical role in promoting cervical cancer awareness and screening among the general public. The only option for health authorities that can reassure the public and guarantee excellent vaccination acceptance is to provide scientifically accurate information in a constructive way, either particular training for health practitioners or through community outreach [44, 45].

5. Conclusions

Several features have an effect on people’s general awareness about HPV, knowledge of HPV-related malignancy, and knowledge of the HPV vaccination. More has to be done to increase HPV vaccination uptake, especially among those populations identified in this research as having poor HPV awareness. Improving our understanding of HPV might be crucial to increasing vaccination rates in the future. That relationship between sociodemographic variables, HPV knowledge, and vaccination uptake has to be explored further via research to be clear. Given the significance of personal relevance in vaccination decision-making, studies that investigate knowledge of noncervical HPV-associated malignancies should be prioritized. Health educators will be better able to influence uptake if they continue to study and record the effectiveness of their intervention tactics. Patient–provider relationships are crucial for vaccination acceptability and should be further studied and practiced in public health.

Data Availability

The data used to support the findings of this study are included within the article.

Conflicts of Interest

The authors declare that they have no conflicts of interest.

Acknowledgments

The authors would like to thank the following students of the CMHS for their help with this research, and their endeavor and persistence helped us approach men in a very conservative community with regards to a very sensitive matter.

---

**Table 14: How do you think HPV can be prevented (regular ultrasound)?**

|                | Frequency | Percent | Valid percent | Cumulative percent |
|----------------|-----------|---------|---------------|--------------------|
| No             | 84        | 21.5    | 21.6          | 21.6               |
| Yes            | 11        | 2.8     | 2.8           | 24.4               |
| Do not know    | 27        | 6.9     | 6.9           | 31.4               |
| No response    | 4         | 1.0     | 1.0           | 32.4               |
| Not applicable | 263       | 67.4    | 67.6          | 100.0              |
| Total          | 389       | 99.7    | 100.0         |                    |
| Missing System | 1         | 0.3     |               |                    |
| Total          | 390       | 100.0   |               |                    |

**Table 15: How do you think HPV can be prevented (vaccination)?**

|                | Frequency | Percent | Valid percent | Cumulative percent |
|----------------|-----------|---------|---------------|--------------------|
| No             | 28        | 7.2     | 7.2           | 7.2                |
| Yes            | 67        | 17.2    | 17.2          | 24.4               |
| Do not know    | 27        | 6.9     | 6.9           | 31.4               |
| No response    | 4         | 1.0     | 1.0           | 32.4               |
| Not applicable | 263       | 67.4    | 67.6          | 100.0              |
| Total          | 389       | 99.7    | 100.0         |                    |
| Missing System | 1         | 0.3     |               |                    |
| Total          | 390       | 100.0   |               |                    |
that is considered by many taboo: 1. Hajer Ahmed Alkifan, 2. Athari Haji Mehail Alkaabi, 3. Abar Ahmed Alamri, 4. Amna Khalfan Abdalla Alnaqbi, 5. Marah Mohammad Sawatrah, 6. Taif Humaid Ali Al Eissaee, 7. Abdulla Al Shemeili, 8. Abdulrahman Alhamandi, 9. Anas Alhamandi, 10. Mohamed Al Ali, 11. Khalid Mahmoud, 12. Ahmed Mohamed Alkous, 13. Dr. Lubna Al Aidroos, 14. Dr. Aliyaa, Mazen Ali Mohamed Najji, 15. Dr. Mohammed Sarhan Mohammed Alneyadi, and 16. Dr. Ghanem Hamad Mahmoud Alamry. The authors would like to thank the UAEU/CMHS for allowing them to perform this research and supported them with all that the authors needed. The authors would like to thank Mr. Yazan Mahafa (fourth year medical student at Hashemite University of Jordan, bachelor of science/major’s biology, Concordia University/Canada) for his help and support in completing this research.

References

[1] O. Ortashi, H. Raheel, M. Shalal, and N. Osman, "Awareness and knowledge about human papillomavirus infection and vaccination among women in UAE," Asian Pacific Journal of Cancer Prevention, vol. 14, no. 10, pp. 6077–6080, 2013.

[2] R. Gamaoun, "Knowledge, awareness and acceptability of anti-HPV vaccine in the Arab states of the Middle East and North Africa Region: a systematic," EMHJ, vol. 24, pp. 6–20, 2018.

[3] M. B. Alazzam, A. S. AlGhamdi, and S. S. Alshamrani, "Corneal biomechanics computational analysis for kerato-conus diagnosis," Computational and Mathematical Methods in Medicine, vol. 2021, 2021, https://doi.org/10.1155/2021/6126503.

[4] A. Saqer, Sh Ghazal, H. Barqawi, J. A. Babi, R. AlKhafaji, and M. M. Elmekresh, "Knowledge and awareness about cervical cancer vaccine (HPV) among parents in Sharjah," Asian Pacific Journal of Cancer Prevention: Asian Pacific Journal of Cancer Prevention, vol. 18, no. 5, pp. 1237–1241, 2017.

[5] M. M. Alsous, A. A. Ali, S. I. Al-Azzam et al., "Knowledge and awareness about human papillomavirus infection and its vaccination among women in Arab communities," Scientific Reports, vol. 11, no. 1, pp. 786–788, 2021.

[6] W. T. Mohammad, S. H. Mabrouk, R. M. A. Mostafa et al., "Artificial intelligence technique of synthesis and characterizations for measurement of optical particles in medical devices," Applied Bionics and Biomechanics, vol. 2022, 2022 https://doi.org/10.1155/2022/9103551, Article ID 9103551.

[7] M. B. Alazzam, W. T. Mohammad, M. B. Younis et al., "Studying the effects of cold plasma phosphorus using physiological and digital image processing techniques," Computational and Mathematical Methods in Medicine, vol. 2022, 2022, https://doi.org/10.1155/2022/8332737.

[8] M. Oz, N. Cetinkaya, A. Apaydin et al., “Awareness and knowledge levels of Turkish college students about human papilloma virus infection and vaccine acceptance,” Journal of Cancer Education, vol. 33, no. 2, pp. 260–268, 2018.

[9] E. Carnegie, A. Whittaker, C. Gray Brunston et al., “Development of a cross-cultural HPV community engagement model within Scotland,” Health Education Journal, vol. 76, no. 4, pp. 398–410, 2017.

[10] O. S. Ahmed, E. E. Omer, S. Z. Alshawwa, M. B. Alazzam, and R. A. Khan, “Approaches to federated computing for the protection of patient privacy and security using medical applications,” Applied Bionics and Biomechanics, vol. 2022, 2022 https://doi.org/10.1155/2022/1201339, Article ID 1201339.

[11] F. Napolitano, P. Napolitano, G. Liguori, and I. F. Angelillo, "Human papillomavirus infection and vaccination: knowledge and attitudes among young males in Italy," Human Vaccines & Immunotherapeutics, vol. 12, no. 6, pp. 1504–1510, 2016.

[12] F. Nefta, C. King, C. Davies et al., “Knowledge, attitudes, and perceptions of the Arabic-speaking community in Sydney, Australia, toward the human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccination program: a qualitative study,” Vaccines, vol. 9, no. 9, p. 940, 2021.

[13] A. Borba, O. Gunay, E. Balci, and M. Sagioglu, "Knowledge and attitudes of medical and non-medical Turkish university students about cervical cancer and HPV vaccination," Asian Pacific Journal of Cancer Prevention, vol. 17, no. 1, pp. 299–303, 2016.

[14] I. M. Gönenç, M. N. Abbas, N. Calbayram, and S. Yilmaz, “A review of knowledge and attitudes of young people on cervical cancer and HPV vaccination,” Journal of Public Health, vol. 28, no. 1, pp. 97–103, 2020.

[15] M. L. Katz, J. L. Krieger, and A. J. Roberto, “Human papillomavirus (HPV): college male’s knowledge, perceived risk, sources of information, vaccine barriers and communication,” Journal of Men’s Health, vol. 8, no. 3, pp. 175–184, 2011.

[16] L. Markovic-Denic, O. Djuric, N. Maksimovic, S. Popovac, and V. Kusic, "Effects of human papillomavirus awareness and knowledge on psychological state of women referred to cervical Cancer screening," Journal of Lower Genital Tract Disease, vol. 22, no. 3, pp. 178–183, 2018.

[17] Y. Husain, A. Alalwan, Z. Al-Musawi, G. Abdulla, K. Hasan, and G. Jassim, "Knowledge towards human papilloma virus (HPV) infection and attitude towards its vaccine in the Kingdom of Bahrain: cross-sectional study," BMJ Open, vol. 9, no. 9, Article ID e031017, 2019.

[18] K. Q. Little, G. Ogilvie, and P. Mirwaldt, “Human papillomavirus awareness, knowledge, and vaccination status in a diverse population of male postsecondary students in Greater Vancouver,” British Columbia Medical Journal, vol. 57, no. 2, 2015.

[19] F. Nefta, M. Tashani, R. Booy, C. King, H. Rashid, and S. R. Skinner, “Knowledge, attitudes and perceptions of immigrant parents towards human papillomavirus (hpv) vaccination: a systematic review,” Tropical Medicine and Infectious Disease, vol. 5, no. 2, p. 58, 2020.

[20] S. Wang, B. Han, Y. Wan et al., “Do male university students know enough about human papillomavirus (HPV) to make informed decisions about vaccination?” Medical Science Monitor: International Medical Journal of Experimental and Clinical Research, vol. 26, pp. e924840–924841, 2020.

[21] M. Mouallif, H. L. Bowyer, S. Festali et al., “Cervical cancer and HPV awareness and vaccine acceptability among parents in Morocco,” Vaccine, vol. 32, no. 3, pp. 409–416, 2014.

[22] I. Elbarazi, H. Raheel, K. Cummings, and T. Loney, “A content analysis of Arabic and English Newspapers before, during, and after the human papillomavirus vaccination campaign in the United Arab Emirates,” Frontiers in Public Health, vol. 4, p. 176, 2016.

[23] Y. Ozsureskci, E. K. Oncel, C. Bayhan et al., “Knowledge and attitudes about human papillomaviruses and immunization among Turkish pediatricians,” Asian Pacific Journal of Cancer Prevention, vol. 14, no. 12, pp. 7325–7329, 2013.

[24] L. S. Stephan, E. Dytz Almeida, R. B. Guimaraes et al., “Processes and recommendations for creating mHealth apps
for low-income populations,” *JMIR mHealth and uHealth*, vol. 5, no. 4, p. e41, 2017.

[25] C. Lokker, R. Jezrawi, I. Gabizon et al., “Feasibility of a web-based platform (trial my app) to efficiently conduct randomized controlled trials of mHealth apps for patients with cardiovascular risk factors: protocol for evaluating an mHealth app for hypertension,” *JMIR research protocols*, vol. 10, no. 2, p. e26155, 2021.

[26] M. B. Alazzam, F. Allassery, and A. Almulhi, “Development of a mobile application for interaction between patients and doctors in rural populations,” *Mobile Information Systems*, vol. 2021, 2021, https://doi.org/10.1155/2021/5006151.

[27] O. Ortashi, H. Raheel, and J. Khamis, “Acceptability of human papillomavirus vaccination among male university students in the United Arab Emirates,” *Vaccine*, vol. 31, no. 44, pp. 5141–5144, 2013.

[28] O. Tatar, S. Perez, A. Naz, G. K. Shapiro, and Z. Rosberger, “Psychosocial correlates of HPV vaccine acceptability in college males: a cross-sectional exploratory study,” *Papillomavirus Research*, vol. 4, pp. 99–107, 2017.

[29] V. Djuric, M. Markovic-Denic, S. Popovac, J. Todorovic, V. Marusic, and N. Maksimovic, “Awareness and knowledge about HPV infection and HPV vaccination among women undergoing cytology and colposcopy in Serbian cervical cancer counseling center,” *IJUCO*, vol. 25, no. 1, pp. 116–124, 2020.

[30] M. Pitts and T. Clarke, “Human papillomavirus infections and risks of cervical cancer: what do women know?” *Health Education Research*, vol. 17, no. 6, pp. 706–714, 2002.

[31] A. d. S. Costa, J. M. Gomes, A. C. C. G. Germani et al., “Knowledge gaps and acquisition about HPV and its vaccine among Brazilian medical students,” *PLoS One*, vol. 15, no. 3, Article ID e0230058, 2020.

[32] J. Abi Jaoude, D. Khair, H. Dagher et al., “Factors associated with Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) vaccine recommendation by physicians in Lebanon, a cross-sectional study,” *Vaccine*, vol. 36, no. 49, pp. 7562–7567, 2018.

[33] J. Rezqalla, M. Alshatti, A. Ibraheem et al., “Human Papillomavirus (HPV) infections and its vaccine among parents in urban community in Yogyakarta,” *International Journal of Pharmacological Research*, vol. 12, no. 3, 2020.

[34] S. Sabeena, P. V. Bhat, V. Kamath, S. Aswathyraj, and G. Arunkumar, “Knowledge, attitude and practice concerning human papilloma virus infection and its health effects among rural women, Karnataka, South India,” *Asian Pacific Journal of Cancer Prevention*, vol. 16, no. 12, pp. 5425–5430, 2015.

[35] A. A. Al-Darwish, A. F. Al-Naim, K. S. Al-Mulhim, N. K. Al-Otaibi, M. S. Morsi, and A. M. Aleem, “Knowledge about cervical cancer early warning signs and symptoms, risk factors and vaccination among students at a medical school in Al-Ahsa, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia,” *Asian Pacific Journal of Cancer Prevention*, vol. 15, no. 6, pp. 2529–2532, 2014.

[36] V. Marusic, and N. Maksimovic, “Awareness of human papillomavirus and corresponding vaccine,” *Vaccine*, vol. 12, no. 3, pp. 530–537, 2019.

[37] O. Djuric, L. Markovic-Denic, S. Popovac, J. Todorovic, V. Marusic, and N. Maksimovic, “Awareness and knowledge about HPV infection and HPV vaccination among women undergoing cytology and colposcopy in Serbian cervical cancer counseling center,” *IJUCO*, vol. 25, no. 1, pp. 116–124, 2020.

[38] H. Ismail, S. Rafiq, S. Shakoor, M. T. Karim, and R. Raheel, “Assessing the role of education in adult women's knowledge and awareness of human papillomavirus and human papillomavirus vaccine,” *Journal of Ayub Medical College, Abbottabad: JAMC*, vol. 29, no. 1, pp. 128–131, 2017.

[39] L. Zheng, J. Wu, and M. Zheng, “Barriers to and facilitators of human papillomavirus vaccination among people aged 9 to 26 years: a systematic review,” *Sexually Transmitted Diseases*, vol. 48, no. 12, pp. e255–e262, 2021.

[40] S. Almansoori, M. S. AlKatheeri, A. A. AlHallami, M. Y. AlMarzoqi, M. Al-Tari, and H. A. L-Tari, “Physicians' knowledge, attitude, and practices toward HPV disease and vaccination in Al Ain city, UAE,” *International Journal of Contemporary Research and Review*, vol. 10, no. 06, pp. 20741–20750, 2019.

[41] D. Doshi, B. S. Reddy, P. Karunakar, and K. Deshpande, “HPV, cervical cancer and pap test related knowledge among a sample of female dental students in India,” *Asian Pacific Journal of Cancer Prevention*, vol. 16, no. 13, pp. 5415–5420, 2015.