

Barriers to Human Papillomavirus Vaccination

Marleah Knights

Human Papillomavirus, also known as HPV, is a sexually transmitted infection that affected 43 million Americans in 2018.

- *Vaccination is one of the most effective methods to prevent HPV (STD Facts - Human Papillomavirus (HPV), 2022).*
- *Rates remain below the desired 80% vaccination rate as outlined in Healthy People 2020 (Wheeler et al., 2021).*
- *There are various disparities in HPV vaccination that contribute to this subpar rate.*

Geography

- There are significant disparities between vaccination rates in urban and rural areas
- Adolescents in urban areas were more likely to be vaccinated (Walker, 2017)



Education

- One study documented educational interventions for HPV and cervical cancer.
- Education was linked to more positive health outcomes (Staples et al., 2018)



Physician Recommendation

- Having a doctor as a primary information source was positively correlated with compliance (Cunningham-Erves et al., 2018)



Media

- Appalachian newspapers were less likely to publish information about the benefits of receiving the HPV vaccine, in addition to any information regarding access (Krieger et al., 2013)

