

Appendix 1. Responses to Semi-Structured Qualitative Interviews

| <p style="text-align: center;">Vaccine Non-Acceptors* (n=7)</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">Vaccine Acceptors* (n=8)</p> |
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| <p style="text-align: center;">What do you know about the HPV vaccine? What are its risks and benefits?</p> | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “It’s used for treating cervical cancer. I’m not sure about the risks. There are no benefits.” • “It prevents cancer. Not sure about which particular cancer. Benefit is that it’s for young women who are sexually active to prevent cancer.” • “It helps prevent STDs. Risks are that you have to follow directions and can’t be pregnant. Benefit is preventing STDs and cancer or something.” • “It prevents cervical cancer. I’m not sure about the risks and benefits.” • “I know girls get it to prevent cervical cancer. The benefit is that it decreases cervical cancer. I don’t know the risks.” • “I don’t remember. I don’t know the risks and benefits.” • “I don’t even remember. I know it was for safety reasons. Anything that is with safety...I’m cool with it.” | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “It’s used to prevent HPV or cervical or issues with the ovaries. I don’t know the risks. The benefit is that it helps prevent HPV.” • “I don’t know anything.” • “It prevents contracting HPV in teens through women in their 30’s. The benefit is that HPV causes cancer. The risks are adverse reactions...but that’s normal and comes with vaccines.” • “I don’t know anything at all. No one explained it to me.” • “It’s used to prevent cervical cancer. The benefit is that it prevents you from getting it [HPV]. I don’t know any risks.” • “I’m not sure. Benefits would be that you wouldn’t get cancer. I don’t know about the risks.” • “HPV leads to cervical cancer. Benefits are that you don’t get it [HPV]. I don’t know the risks.” • “It prevents cervical cancer. I don’t know the risks and benefits.” |
| <p style="text-align: center;">What made you choose to accept or decline the HPV vaccine?</p> | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “They told me it would decrease my chance of cervical cancer.” • “It was something I was concerned about. My doctor, who I trusted, recommended it.” • “When I went, my Mirena was getting taken out. Most young adults are getting it. Also to protect myself.” • “To prevent cancer.” | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “I didn’t know enough about it.” • “I don’t know enough about it...it was offered by a nurse, but there was no explanation.” • “Because of my age...it wasn’t my decision.” • “It wasn’t explained.” |

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The authors provided this information as a supplement to their article.

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “I didn’t know I had a choice...I just got it.” • “To be as safe as possible.” • “I had abnormal pap smears. I know it can lead to cervical cancer.” | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Because it’s new. I had a colposcopy and was clear. I wasn’t having any symptoms and didn’t need it.” • “I was offered it, but I was on medicine and wanted it to get out of my system.” • “It was never explained it to me.” • “They just keep coming out with new things.” |
| <p>Who or what influenced you the most in your decision about the HPV vaccine?</p> | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Me...getting these colpos.” • “My doctor.” • “My nurse.” • “My family – my mom has cervical cancer.” • “My doctor.” • “Friends.” • “Myself and my doctor.” | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “I didn’t look it up myself and didn’t learn enough from the doctors.” • “I didn’t have enough information about the vaccine.” • “My age.” • “It wasn’t explained.” • “I had never heard of it before.” • “No one. They told me I should get it, but I said no.” • “I would get it...it was just never explained.” • “Myself.” |
| <p>Do you think it is important for all women to get the HPV vaccine? Why or why not?</p> | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Yes – less chance of getting cancer.” • “I think it’s a personal decision.” • “Yes – it doesn’t hurt, it’s safe and you’re helping yourself.” • “Yes – it prevents cervical cancer.” • “Yes – you don’t want to get cervical cancer.” • “Yes – it’s really important to be as safe and healthy as possible.” • “Yes – cervical cancer is spreading more in today’s population.” | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “I’m really not sure...I don’t know enough about it.” • “It could be...if it helps prevent HPV, then yes.” • “Yes – they should use precautions and condoms. Do anything to protect yourself.” • “No idea – I know nothing about it.” • “I don’t know.” • “Yes – it could be important...so then you wouldn’t have to worry about it.” • “Yes – it can stop you from getting it [HPV].” • “I think so...the cervical cancer rate is high and now more common.” |
| <p>Did you have to overcome any obstacles to obtain the vaccine? If so, what were they?</p> | |

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “No...I had to get it at my primary, but there weren’t any issues.” • “Constantly getting to your doctors and getting it on time.” • “No.” • “No.” • “No.” • “No.” • “No.” | |
| <p align="center">How do you learn best? Reading, watching a video or learning through conversation?</p> | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Reading.” • “Reading, listening, videos. All of these.” • “Reading – so I can see the facts and do my research.” • “Watching and listening.” • “Watching.” • “Watching things.” • “Reading or watching.” | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Reading or talking in person. I’d prefer to learn about the vaccine through reading.” • “Reading.” • “Reading and watching things.” • “Reading or watching. Anything visual.” • “Reading.” • “Talking in person.” • “Talking in person.” • “Watching and listening.” |

* Non-Acceptors and Acceptors are subjects that responded “Disagree” or “I don’t know” and “Agree”, respectively, to the statement “I would be willing to accept the HPV vaccine today.”