

Adherence to Human Papillomavirus Vaccination in Inflammatory Bowel Disease Patients in Primary Care Practice



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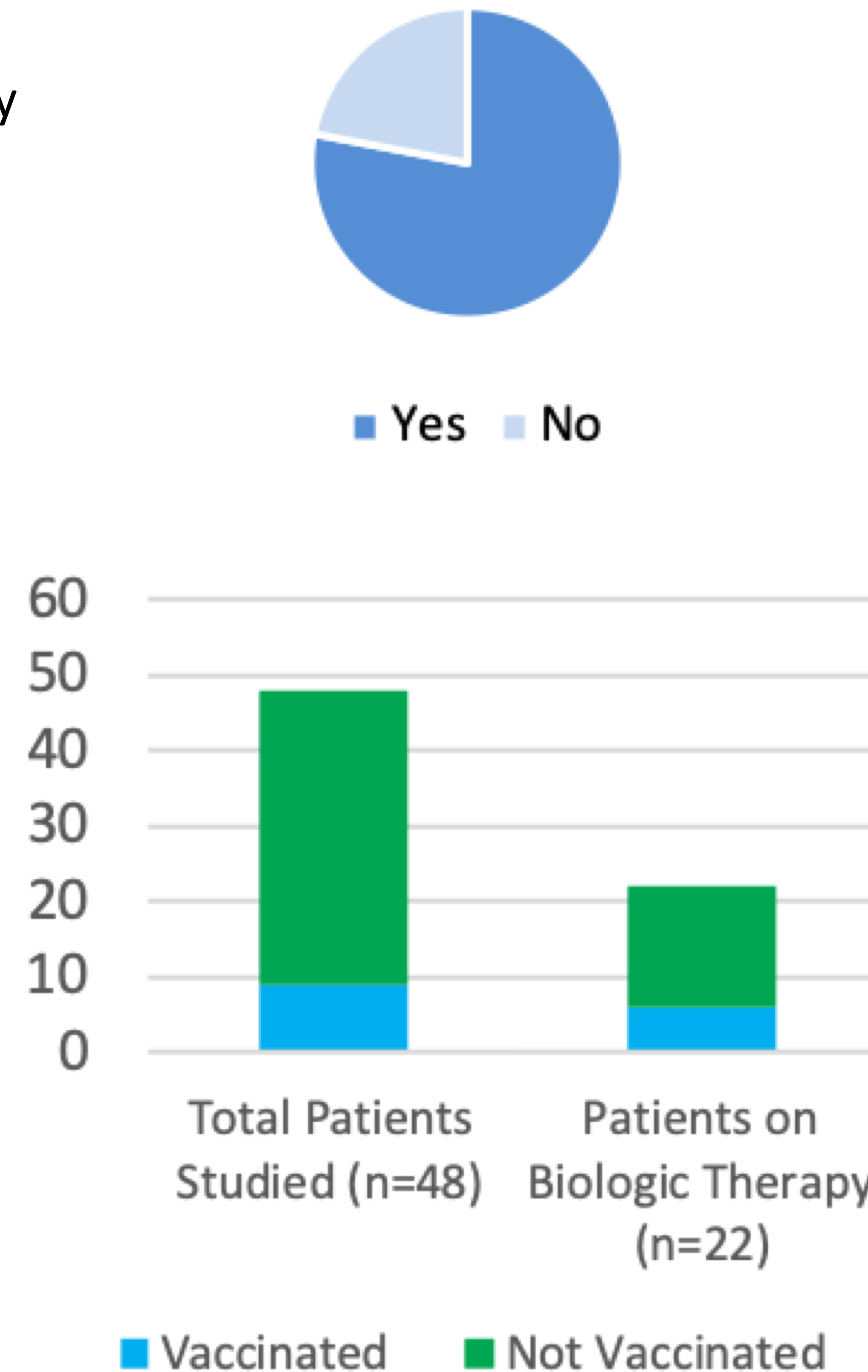
Introduction

Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) is an infection which is transmitted through intimate skin-to-skin contact such as vaginal, anal or oral sexual intercourse. The HPV vaccine can prevent over 90% of cancers caused by HPV and administration is recommended by the CDC by age 26 and to individuals between ages 27-45 after a balanced discussion. The American College of Gastroenterology currently recommends that all adult patients with Inflammatory Bowel Disease (IBD), regardless of their immunosuppression status, receive non-living vaccinations which are in-line with national guidelines, including the HPV vaccine.

Methods

- A survey was performed assessing the knowledge, attitude, and practices of preventative health in primary care providers, including residents and attending physicians, in the management of patients with IBD. Providers were asked about vaccination practices for their IBD patients.
- A sample of patients was selected via retrospective chart review from the medical health record database within a tertiary care center, located in Pittsburgh, PA.
 - Inclusion criteria: Confirmed diagnosis of Ulcerative Colitis (UC) or Crohn's Disease (CD), established primary care clinic relationship with the internal medicine residents (teaching service) or non-teaching internists of the same medical center
 - Excluded were patients over the age of 60, due to first approval of HPV vaccine in 2006.
 - General Demographics, HPV vaccination status, and clinical information relating to IBD was collected.

HPV Vaccination Survey



Results

- Of the 49 resident/attending physicians surveyed, 38 (78%) stated that female IBD patients should be routinely vaccinated for HPV
- 48 patients were included in the study, all of them being female, with ages ranging from 22-60 years
- Only 9 out of 48 (19%) of the patients were vaccinated against HPV
- 22 out of the 48 patients were on biologic therapy for their IBD
- Out of these 22 patients, only 6 (27% of patients on biologic therapy) were fully-vaccinated for HPV

Discussion

Our survey revealed that more than two-thirds of physicians understood that HPV Vaccination should be a routine vaccination for female patients with IBD. Although 78% of these physicians acknowledged that this population should be vaccinated for HPV, only 19% of patients received the vaccine. It would be necessary moving forward to determine the barriers of care, including but not limited to gaps in physician knowledge, lack of access to the vaccine, patient preference and patient adherence.

References

1. HPV Vaccine. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. <https://www.cdc.gov/hpv/parents/vaccine-for-hpv.html>. Published 2021. Accessed October 2, 2022.
2. Farraye, Francis A., et al. "ACG clinical guideline: preventive care in inflammatory bowel disease." *Official journal of the American College of Gastroenterology ACG* 112.2 (2017): 241-258.