Factors related to Israeli lesbian women's intention to be vaccinated against HPV

Ben-Natan Merav, RN, PHD
Maor Shir, RN, BA

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A Lesbian is a Woman who has sexual relation with another Woman.

Sexual Identity is not necessarily an indication of a sexual behavior (Hughes C and Evans A, 2003)
Definition

- HPV is a virus that causes cervical cancer.
The tendency of lesbian women to perceive themselves as being at a low risk for HPV infection, and therefore have low rates of protective measures.
The aim of the study was to identify related to Israeli lesbian women’s intention to be vaccinated, using the Health Belief Model (HBM).
Health Belief Model
(Becker, 1974)

- Intention to be Vaccinated
  - Perceived Susceptibility
  - Perceived Severity
  - Perceived Benefits
  - Perceived Barriers
  - Health Motivation
Methodology

- Quantitative correlational study
- N=207, convenience sample of lesbians who lives in Israel.
- The instrument of research was a questionnaires based on the theory of HBM
Research Population

- Age – Range 18-26, M=24
- Religion – 92% Jewish
- Level of Religiosity – 89% Secular
- Family Status – 91% are Single
- Country of Birth – 91% were born in Israel
- Ethnicity – 57.4% are Ashkenazi Jewish.
Research Population

- Level of Income – 51.5% earn below the average Israeli Income
- Education Level – 66% have Academic Education
- Had prior Sexual Relations with a Male – 60.2%
- Age – Range 18-26, M=242%
Research Population

- Women who have had received the Vaccine – 20% and from the Women who had begun receiving it, Completed it – 81%
Findings

Vaccination against HPV

- Yes: 79.7%, n=165
- No: 20.3%, n=42
Findings

Lesbian Women whom received 3 Courses of the Vaccine

- 81% (n=34) Completed
- 19% (n=8) Didn't Complete
Findings

Intention to be vaccinated

- Perceived Susceptibility (r=0.35)**
- Benefits of the vaccine (r=0.67)**
- Receiving information $t[\text{df}=152]=-3^*$
- Previous sexual experiment $t[\text{df}=196]=-2.5**$
- Previously receiving the vaccine $t[\text{df}=9.4]=15.6**$

*p<0.05
**p<0.01
Limitations

- Cross-sectional design
- Instrument
Recommendations

- Clinical Strategies
- Further Research
Lesbians?
YOU ARE AT RISK!
GET THE HPV VACCINE!