Obesity and Disparities in Human Papillomavirus Vaccination for U.S. Adolescent Girls and Young Women

Visit Article

Obesity is recognized as a barrier to receiving women's preventive health services, including cervical and breast cancer screening. Little is known about whether obesity is associated with a lower incidence of human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccination, another important preventive care service for adolescent girls and young women. The objective of this study was to determine if adolescent girls and young women with obesity are less likely to receive HPV vaccination compared with individuals with normal weight. We examined whether HPV vaccination was associated with obesity status in women aged 9-30 years surveyed from 2009 to 2016 by the U.S. National Health and Nutrition Examination Study. Results from logistic and linear regression models were adjusted for age, race, income, insurance status, self-reported health, and health care use, accounting for the weighted survey design. The final cohort included 5,517 women. Overall, 32.9% of participants reported vaccination, with a mean age at vaccination of 15.8 years. Adolescent girls and young women with obesity were less likely to report vaccination; the adjusted odds ratio of vaccination was 0.79 (p = .01) compared with normal weight women. Among those vaccinated, the age at vaccination was significantly older for women with obesity, 16.3 years compared with 15.2 years (p = .002), but there was no difference in the completion of the vaccination series rate by obesity. Adolescent girls and young women with obesity were less likely to report HPV vaccination and, if they were vaccinated, received the vaccination at a later age.

Journal:

http://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/womens-health-issues
Authors: Aletha Y. Akers

Related Content

- Increasing HPV Vaccination Rates Among Adolescents: Challenges and Opportunities
  Evidence to Action Briefs
  Apr 2016
- Improving HPV Vaccination Rates
  Tools and Memos
  Mar 2014
- Sociodemographic Differences in Human Papillomavirus Vaccine Initiation by Adolescent Males
  Article
  Sep 2015

- Effect of Decision Support on Missed Opportunities for Human Papillomavirus Vaccination
  Article
  Dec 2014