



Knowledge Toward HPV and Cervical Cancer Among Low Health-Literate Vietnamese American Women

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Background

- Human papillomavirus (HPV) is the primary cause of cervical cancer.
- Vietnamese American women are more likely to be diagnosed with cervical cancer than their non-Hispanic white counterparts.
- Vietnamese American women have the highest incidence rates of cervical cancer but one of the lowest HPV vaccination rates.

Objective

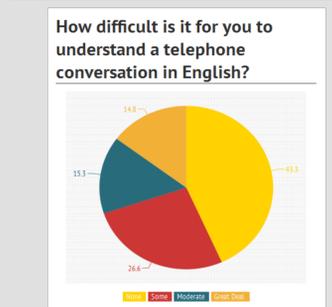
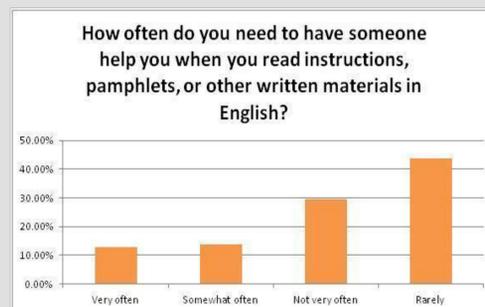
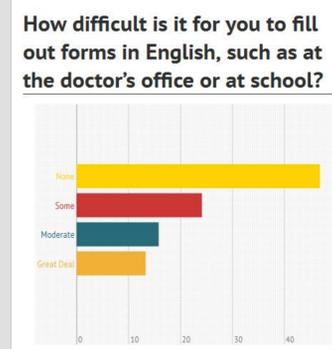
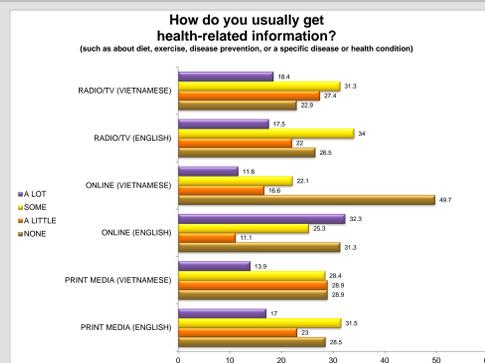
- The purpose of this project is to develop, implement and assess the effectiveness of tailored cervical cancer education programs for improving health literacy among Vietnamese women.

Methods

- Target Population: Vietnamese women ages 18-65
- Two trained bicultural and bilingual conducted face-to-face interviews
- Collected data on participants' knowledge about cervical cancer, demographic characteristics (i.e., age, income, acculturation level), sources of health information, and health literacy skills (i.e., difficulty reading health information).

Results

- A total of 205 Vietnamese women participated in the study.
- The mean age was 34.4 years old (SD=14.7)
- Mean years of residency in the US was 14.8 years (SD=10.2).
- Nearly one-quarter (21.7%) of the participants were not aware of cervical cancer prevention with regular pap tests.
- The majority of the participants had not heard of available vaccines such as Gardasil (73.4%) and Cervarix (83.7%).
- There was a significant association between health literacy and cervical health knowledge.
- Results indicate that various myths and beliefs are currently present within the Vietnamese community.



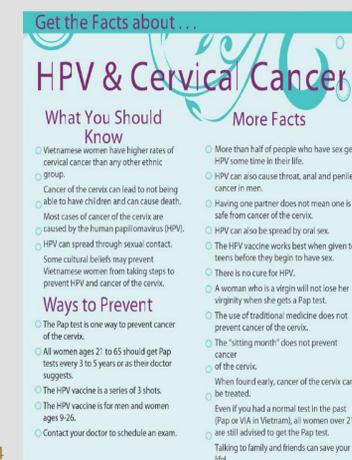
Implications

- Implications from this study show that health providers need to change their methods of communication to improve health literacy, which plays a vital role in disease prevention.

Results from this study were used to develop culturally and linguistically appropriate brochures and interactive videos on HPV and cervical cancer.



URL: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NE8S8HORNR4>



Special Thanks

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- Radio Saigon
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- HOPE Clinic
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