RAVE
INCREASING HPV IMMUNIZATION RATES: THE RURAL ADOLESCENT VACCINE ENTERPRISE

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Did you know that we can prevent cancer of the cervix, throat, and elsewhere through HPV vaccination? The vaccine is safe and effective for males and females, ages 9-26 years. The Rural Adolescent Vaccine Enterprise, also known as RAVE, is a research study designed to understand why vaccination rates are low in rural settings and identify new ways to improve them.

Why is studying HPV vaccination important?
Each year in the US, 14 million people, including teens, become infected with human papillomavirus (HPV) and about 31,500 men and women are diagnosed with HPV related cancer each year. The HPV vaccine has been available for over a decade and is effective at preventing cervical, anal, penile, vulvar and throat cancers. Nationally, and in Oregon, HPV vaccination rates are exceptionally low. For Oregon adolescents, the up to date vaccination rate is 46.4%, falling short of the American Cancer Society’s goal of 80% adolescents fully vaccinated by 2026.

What are the goals of this study?
To improve HPV vaccination rates, it is necessary to change the way clinicians and staff within a practice present and deliver the HPV vaccine. In partnership with the State of Oregon Immunization Program and 40 participating family medicine and pediatric practices in rural Oregon, the RAVE research team at the Oregon Rural Practice-based Research Network (ORPRN) aim to increase the capacity of practices to sustain a quality improvement (QI) structure and processes that lead to improved immunization rates. Additionally, as part of this study, the RAVE team will design and test a community-based intervention to educate the public about the HPV vaccine and related cancer risks. The findings from RAVE may improve HPV immunization rates in rural Oregon and can be shared across rural America.

Interested in our study?!
That’s great! We love to know that others are interested in the work we are doing and share the same goals as us. Our team is interested in using the RAVE study to leverage the work that is already happening out in the field. Please reach out to us at RAVE@ohsu.edu if you would like to refer a clinic or partner to this study, receive updates about our study, or help leverage HPV initiatives that are currently happening in your community!

For More Information, Contact:
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