

Development of a novel survey tool to evaluate acceptability of primary HPV cervical cancer screening

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Introduction

- In 2018, the United States Preventive Services Task Force updated recommendations for cervical cancer to include hrHPV screening (alone or in combination with cytology) every 5 years
- In the summer of 2020, the American Cancer Society released new guidelines promoting the use of primary hrHPV testing as **first line** screening for cervical cancer
- Health disparities exist in cervical cancer screening. Under-screened women, primarily minority women, and black women have a 41% higher mortality rate of cervical cancer than white women
- The purpose of this study is to create a novel, comprehensive survey to evaluate patient and clinician acceptability of primary hrHPV testing, as this stands to increase access and thereby reduce disparities

Methods



Literature Review

Question Development

Feedback

- A scoping literature review of previous studies on patient and clinician knowledge, attitudes and beliefs (KAB) surrounding HPV testing was completed
- Survey questions were framed by existing literature.
- Feedback from statistical advisors and research peers was received

Results

Patient and Clinician surveys were created with an emphasis on paralleling questions. Below are example questions

Patient Survey

15. How certain are you that you would...

	Strongly agree	Somewhat agree	Somewhat disagree	Strongly disagree
Be able to understand the instructions to perform the test	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Be able to perform the self-sampling procedure on your own	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Be able to return the test easily	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Be able to perform a self-test accurately	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Trust the result (+ or -)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

18. What concerns do you have with a self-swab HPV screening test?
- Using the self-swab correctly
 - Potential harm/discomfort from device
 - Instructions of self-sampling - are they straightforward? Too much medical jargon? Health literacy?
 - Physical discomfort
 - Accuracy of testing
 - Risk of not "catching early enough" (i.e. 5 years is too long)

Clinician Survey

19. In regards to self-swab HPV testing, how certain are you that your patients would be able to...

	Strongly agree	Some-what agree	Neither agree or disagree	Some-what disagree	Strongly disagree
Understand the instructions	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Perform the test	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Return the test easily	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Perform the test accurately	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Trust the result (+ or -)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

21. Which of the following would be barriers for your patients to perform self-sampling? (Mark all that apply)
- Ability/skill of patient to perform self-swab accurately
 - Design of self swab device? (cervico-vaginal/applicator)
 - Health literacy
 - Insurance coverage
 - Concerns about accuracy of self-swab method

22. Which of the following would be barriers for your practice/your self to recommend self-sampling? (Mark all that apply)
- Insurance coverage
 - Necessity of clinician to perform test
 - Women may not return for follow up
 - Missed opportunity to address other health issues (i.e. pelvic exams?)
 - Inaccuracy of self-swab

Scan the QR codes for links to the full surveys:



Patient Survey



Clinician Survey

Implications

- The survey development will enable the research team to synchronously assess KAB between clinicians and patients
- The results will identify similarities and differences in perceived acceptability between clinicians and patients.
- We anticipate acceptability to be high with women in groups historically under-screened.
- As such, the results of this survey may provide insight to patients and clinicians when engaging in shared decision making.

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