

Background

- The National AHEC Organization (NAO) and other organizations used CDC cooperative agreement grants to focus on raising the HPV vaccination rates.
- NAO and the Area Health Education Centers (AHECs) network provided provider training to increase their rates.
- Evaluation found increases in awareness, knowledge, and skills among the providers.
- Whether these training programs increased their HPV vaccination rates was unknown.

Program Description

- *You Are The Key* training sessions conducted by practicing clinicians using the slide set provided by CDC.
- Aims of the training included:
 - Increase in awareness of the HPV burden
 - Knowledge of CDC vaccination recommendations
 - Skills and approaches to help parents decide to vaccinate their children
- Included recommended practice changes to increase HPV vaccination rates.

Purpose

- Determine if HPV vaccination rate data can be collected from providers.
- Identify challenges to obtaining the data.
- Identify barriers to providing vaccinations.
- See if pilot data show an increase in rates.

Methods

- Eight providers recruited for project by the Texas Mid-Rio Grande Border AHEC and Southeast Louisiana AHEC.
- Providers received *You Are The Key* training in 2016 and 2017.
- Provider groups reported data on the total number of 13-17 year-old male and female patients in the 6-months before and 6-months after their training.
- Data included the number in each time period who completed the HPV vaccination series.
- IRB exempt from review.

Results

- The providers reported counts of 2,174 13 to 17 year-old patients seen in the 6 months BEFORE participating in the training and, 2,071 13 to 17 year-old patients seen in the 6-months AFTER the training.
- Completed HPV vaccination rates for GIRLS increased from 40.6% to 61.1%.
- Completed HPV vaccination rates for BOYS increased from 32.4% to 56.1%.
- For ALL 13 to 17 year-old youth, the completed HPV vaccination rates increased from 36.3% to 58.7%



Conclusions

- Results indicate that the *You Are The Key* training of providers significantly increases the HPV vaccination rates among their patients.
- Refusals, other health issues and lack of time are common reasons for not vaccinating youth.
- Providers needed to be able to query their EMRs to obtain the needed data.
- Immunization sites that don't provide continuity of care may not have the needed information.
- The linkage between AHECs and providers enabled the needed information to be obtained.
- Next steps will involve expanding the project to more AHECs in other states.

