

Human Papilloma Virus (HPV)

Survey of Dallas County Dental Providers, 2020



52.31% Knew most people would get HPV in their lifetime.



Nearly 57% agree or strongly agree dental providers should discuss vaccines with patients



64.52% are not routinely discussing HPV vaccines with patients or parents.



74.19% prefer online CE courses over other training methods

Dallas County has the lowest completion rate for human papilloma virus (HPV) vaccinations in Texas. The Department of State Health Services' Oral Health Improvement Program (OHIP) partnered with the Texas HPV Coalition to conduct a survey of Dallas County dental providers. The results of the survey will be used to encourage dentists to give a strong recommendation for the HPV vaccine.

The survey was sent via email link to Dallas County Dental Society members who could share it. Of 86 dental providers who completed the survey, 71 providers reported their primary office was in Dallas County.

While the majority answered the provider knowledge questions correctly, many did not know that most people would get HPV in their lifetime. Almost half of the participants reported having questions about HPV vaccines.

More than half of participants agreed dental providers should discuss HPV vaccines with patients and parents. However, only 35 percent felt they had adequate knowledge to discuss HPV with patients or parents.

Most participants report they do not routinely discuss HPV vaccines with patients or parents. Most offices do not have HPV related materials for patients to view or take home.

Overall, the participants indicated they were interested in additional education and resources on HPV vaccines.

Pamphlets and online continuing education courses were preferred.

For more information, contact the Oral Health Improvement Program at dental@dshs.texas.gov.



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