

ABSTRACT

The Exploration of the Perceptions of the Parents of Prepubescent Girls in West Trinidad towards Vaccination of Their Daughters against the Human Papilloma Virus

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With a focus on Western Trinidad, this qualitative phenomenological case study investigated the attitudes that contributed to parents' refusal to allow their prepubescent daughters to be vaccinated against the Human Papilloma Virus (HPV). Data were collected through interviews. The findings suggested that knowledge of HPV, the HPV vaccine, and cervical cancer, were low among the participants. The parents rejected the vaccine due to concerns about the age of their daughters, their misconceptions about their daughters' susceptibility, and their own discomfort about discussing sexual health issues with their children.

Keywords: Perception; Child health; Adolescent girls; Parent attitudes; Parent child relationship; Trinidad and Tobago