

#### HPV Uptake Communication in the Social Media Environment

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Background: Using social media for environmental scanning and communication research



Phase I: Social media-based **focus groups** for surveillance on HPV vaccination in rural areas

# Agenda



Phase 2: Leveraging social media and crowdsourcing platforms for message-testing experiments



Phase 3: **Social media campaigns** for HPV uptake communication in rural areas



Future directions and questions

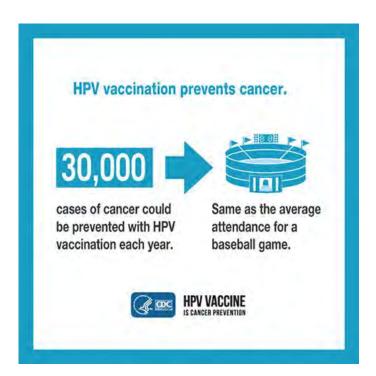




# Phase I. Virtual focus groups for surveillance on HPV vaccination in rural areas

#### Each year...

- 79 million Americans are infected with HPV
- 30,700 develop HPV-related cancers
- Incidence rate is increasing, fastest among men
- HPV causes as many deaths as measles did in the pre-vaccine era

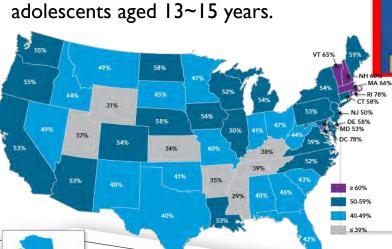


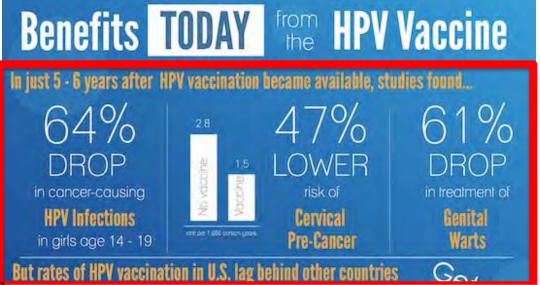


Sources: CDC; NH DHHS

The current HPV vaccine prevents up to 93% of cancer cases caused by HPV.

Yet, rates of HPV vaccination in U.S. lag behind other countries; No state had reached the Healthy People 2020 goal of full vaccination of 80% of adolescents aged 13~15 years.





https://www.cdc.gov/hpv/infographics/vacc-coverage.jpg
National Immunization Survey — Teen, 2013; Stokley et al., 2014

Percentage of adolescents who are current with their HPV vaccinations by state.

- HPV vaccination rates among certain populations, such as adolescents in rural areas are not as high as other adolescent vaccines.
- Parents who decline the vaccine maintain myths and negative/ambivalent attitudes toward HPV vaccination.



### **Anti-Vaxxer**

The HPV Vaccine: **Why Parents Really Choose to Refuse** 

**Join us** as we **expose** one of the most controversial topics in healthcare today.

You can be sure that this \$30 billion a year industry affects you, your children, and the rest of our society.



Helping destroy the



**REACTIONS AND DEATHS, INFANTS ARE NEXT** 

### The Washington Post

Democracy Dies in Darkness

Teen who defied anti-vax mom says she got false information from one source: Facebook

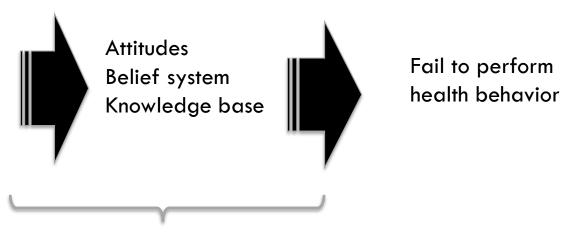
**Public Health Threats** 

**Information Pollution** 



- Communication noise
- Exposure to misinformation

- Repeated exposure over time



### Psychological factors: Barriers

Identify psychological factors why parents in rural areas have or have not vaccinated their children against HPV.



# Harnessing social technology



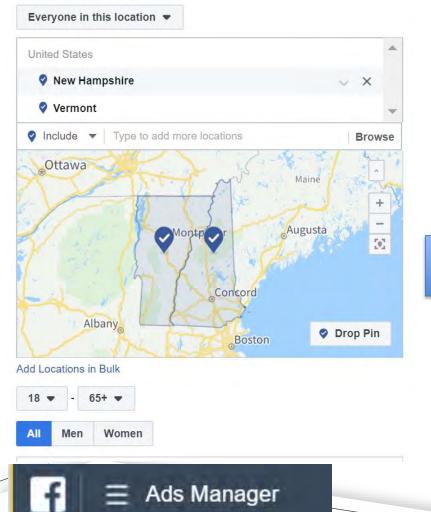


- ☐ Reach (e.g., underserved populations, geographically distant individuals)
- ☐ User engagement and interactive communication
- ☐ Social support
- ☐ Cost-effective
- ☐ Naturally occurring communication
- ☐ Scalability (intervention content, methods, and outcomes)

#### Methods:

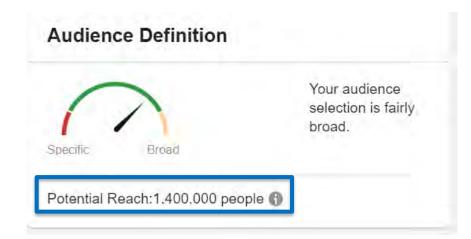
Multiphase sequential designs of translational communication research





### Two rural states, NH/VT.

→ Feasible?



1,535,688 adult population in NH/VT

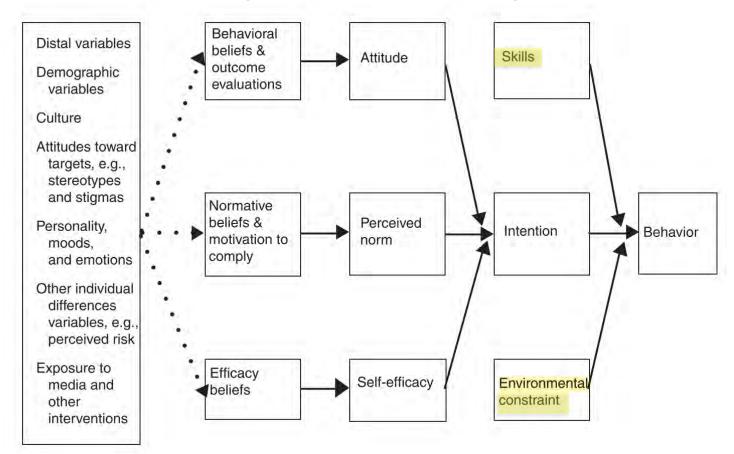
<u>United States Census Bureau</u> (2018)

### Focus group questions on Facebook

- 6 sets of questions in a structured format
- Consistent format across virtual focus groups
- Disseminated focus group postings via rural and urban areas using zip codes on Facebook
- Data-mined user comments for thematic analyses



#### An integrative model of behavioral prediction





the HPV vaccine and related information.

Almost everyone will have HPV at some point in their lives. For most people, HPV goes away on its own, but can sometimes cause cancer and other diseases. Over 90% of cancer cases caused by HPV could be prevented with the HPV vaccine. It is recommended that all 11 and 12 year-olds should get two shots of the HPV vaccine 6-12 months apart and should get both shots before they turn 13. It's best given at this age range, because they are less likely to have been exposed to HPV and because they have a strong immune response. If they wait until they're older, they will need three shots.

- Based on what you just read, do you know enough about HPV and the HPV vaccine to get your child vaccinated?
- Please tell us about any other information you've seen or heard about getting the HPV vaccine.
- Do you have the resources and support you need to get your child vaccinated against HPV?
- · Has your child already received the HPV vaccine? If not, why not?
- Would you consider the HPV vaccine for your child if your child hasn't received it yet?
- . What, if anything, would you need in order to get your child this vaccine?

If you want to share your thoughts, experiences, and concerns anonymously, click "https://goo.gl/q2mF9H" to go to our online survey. Participation in this research study is voluntary. Your responses will be kept confidential with researchers at Dartmouth College. You can enter to win a drawing for e-gift cards. Click "https://goo.gl/q2mF9H" for more details.

Please Note. Regarding comments on this post researchers at Dartmouth College will use your comments below for RESEARCH purposes to learn about people's views on the HPV vaccine. Leaving comments and participating is completely voluntary, and we will not collect your name or any other identifying information. Please note: your comments on this post may be publicly available.



#### Neutral source

# Greetings & Background information

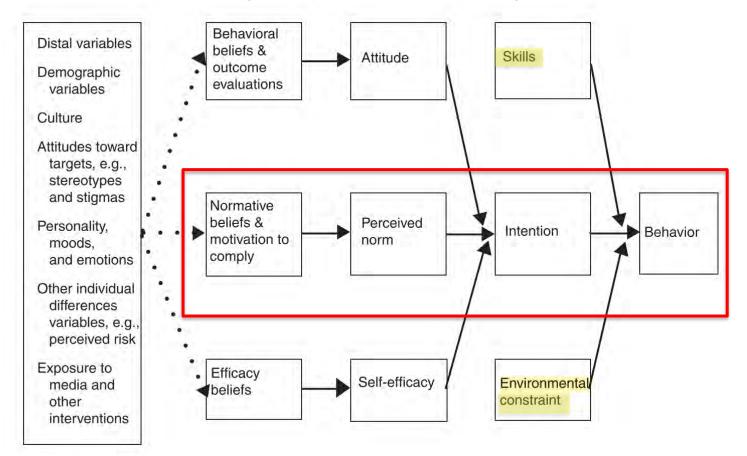
Questions driven by the model

Ending statement. Embedded survey

Disclaimer (observational study on social media).

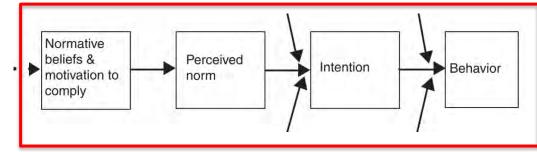
Message-congruent image

#### An integrative model of behavioral prediction



### I. Normative beliefs and motivation to comply $\rightarrow$ perceived norm $\rightarrow$ behavioral intention $\rightarrow$ Behavior

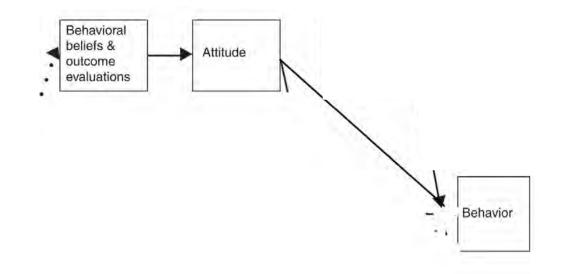
- Do you believe that boys AND girls in this age range should get the vaccine? Would you be motivated in following this recommendation?
- Do you believe that the age range of II-I2 is appropriate?





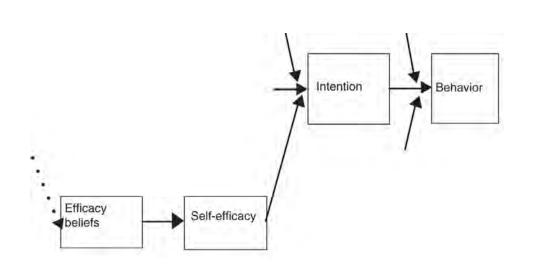
## 2. Behavioral beliefs and outcome evaluations/<u>response efficacy</u> belief → attitudes → BI

- Do you believe HPV vaccine will protect your children against genital warts and cervical cancer?
- Do you believe the HPV vaccine is safe, beneficial, and important for children ages between 9 and 15? Or, do you have the opposite opinions about the HPV vaccine?





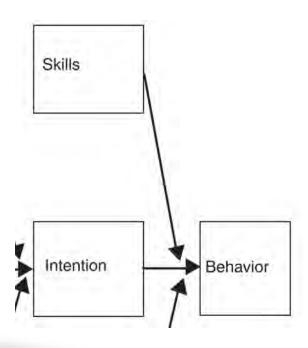
### 3. self-efficacy → behavioral intention



- As a parent, how challenging would it be for you to meet this recommendation?
- How confident are you that you have the ability to meet this recommendation?



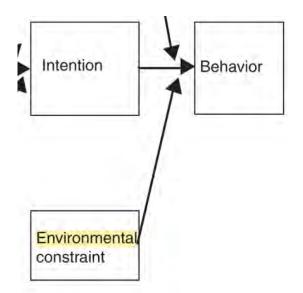
#### 4. Skills /lack of knowledge/ lack of exposure to recommendation



- 90% of people have HPV at some point in their lives. Although most people clear the virus without ever knowing they have it, the virus can persist in the cells and some types of HPV can, usually over decades, cause cancer.
- The HPV vaccine protects against nearly 90% of cervical cancers, and it provides protection against most of the genital cancers in men caused by HPV infection. The HPV vaccine also works effectively when given at a younger age. Children aged 11 and under only need two HPV vaccines instead of 3 doses.
- Do you have enough knowledge about the HPV infection and the HPV vaccine? Have you read or seen any information about the importance of receiving HPV vaccines? Please share if you think you have enough knowledge, access to the information, and support to accomplish the recommended doses of the HPV vaccine for your child. If not, please share what skills, knowledge, resources you would like to have.



#### 5. Environmental constraint/Perceived barriers (access to care),



 E.g., Are there any obstacles or constraints that are preventing you from successfully giving the HPV vaccines for your child? If there are any things that make it difficult for you to get your child vaccinated, please let us hear. Share your concerns, barriers, and any difficult situations that made it hard for you to achieve the recommended doses for your child.



## Audience geo-targeting

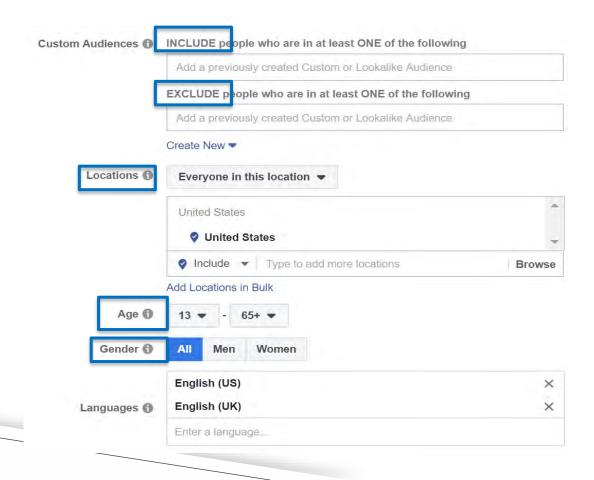
Geo-targeting by zip code levels on Facebook Ads Manager

NH = 297 zip codes VT = 312 zip codes

609 zip codes in NH/VT



#### Audience Targeting by geographic & demographic characteristics





## Data monitoring

- Anti-vaxxers
- Not relevant to the topic
- Swear, attack, trolls
- No intervention but observation
- 6 different Facebook Ads in a random order over time



# Data analysis

- Thematic analyses
  - 327 user comments
  - Coding scheme: 23 pre-defined coding schemes concerning barriers and facilitators for HPV vaccination
- Linguistic analysis
  - 12,622 words from focus groups



### 5 most salient themes from virtual focus groups

- Theme I: Safety/Side Effects/Risk/Ingredient Concerns and Long-Term or Major Adverse Events (of HPV Vaccine)
- Theme 2: Distrust of the System
- Theme 3: Effectiveness Concerns/HPV Vaccine Doesn't Work
- Theme 4: Connected to Sexual Activity
- Theme 5: Mis-States Facts



### Discussion and limitations

- To collectively inform communication strategies for public health campaigns.
- Social media platforms were effective in engaging parents in hard-to-reach areas for discussions on HPV vaccination.

- Important to monitor focus groups in real time (e.g., trolls, spiral of silence)
- Geo-targeting but no validation on locations



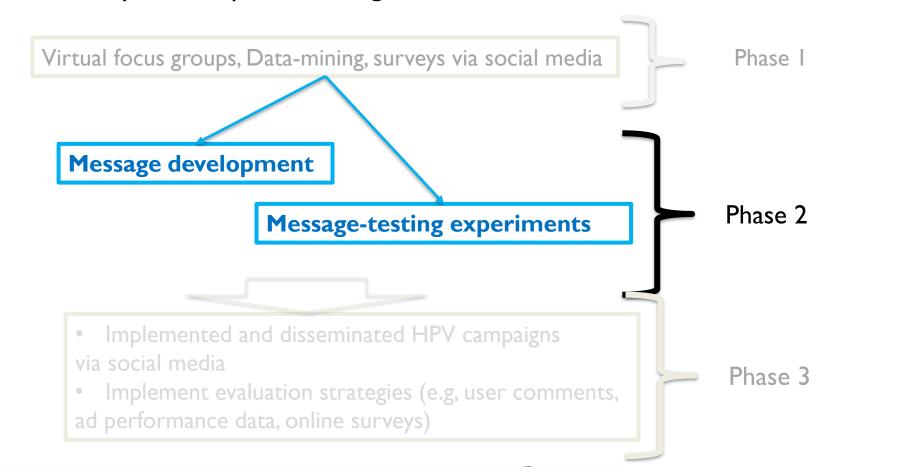


# Phase 2: Messages Testing Experiment for HPV social media campaign



### Methodological approach:

Multiphase sequential designs of translational communication research



# Principles applied in the message development

- Developed 5~6 messages for each theme from focus groups
- Persuasion tactics:
  - Emotional appeal, rational appeal,
     concordance between image and text;
     neutral source; recency effect in
     promoting target statement
- Controlled for the length of messages
- Used neutral source
- Simulated social media environments within the message-testing experiment



Each year, over 20,000 women and 13,000 men in the U.S. get six types of cancer caused by human papillomavirus (HPV); thankfully, we have a safe vaccine to prevent these cancers. While some people worry about vaccine safety and the chemicals widely used in all vaccines, only very small amounts of chemicals are used to preserve the vaccines and to improve their long-term effectiveness. All boys and girls who are 11 or 12 years old should get the HPV vaccine to protect them against cancers caused by HPV, as well as genital warts. Talk to your child's doctor about the vaccines they need, including the HPV vaccine. Click "Learn More" for more information.



#### DARTMOUTH.CO1.QUALTRICS.COM

"Learn More" about HPV cancer prevention vaccines. \$20 gift-cards for randomly selected...

Learn More









### Examples of stimulus materials

Theme 1: Countering 'Side Effects/Risk/Ingredi ent Concerns' Theme 2: Countering 'Distrust of the System' Theme 3: Countering 'Effectiveness Concerns' Theme 4: Countering 'Connection to Sexual Activity'

The human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine prevents against six types of

cancer caused by HPV. The vaccine is also safe. As you will hear in this

video from the Minnesota Department of Health, the HPV vaccine has been

recommended and licensed since 2006 and there are not any serious safety

concerns. All boys and girls who are 11 or 12 years old should get the HPV

Talk to your child's doctor about the vaccines they need-including the HPV

vaccine-and watch this video to learn more about the HPV vaccine's safety

information.https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yiXghPf8D00

vaccine to help protect them from getting HPV cancers and genital warts.

Health Promotions

record. Click "Learn More" for more

Sponsored - 3

Theme 5: Countering 'Misinformation'



Study results show that the human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine is effective in preventing cancers caused by HPV. As you'll learn from the video and article linked below, among women who were vaccinated in Finland 15 years ago, none of them got HPV cancers—showing that this vaccine works in preventing excivacle cancer and other types of cancer caused by HPV. In addition, we have seen a 71% decrease in HPV infections that cause most HPV cancers and genital wants among teen girls vaccinated in the U.S. All boys and girls who are 11 or 12 years old should get the HPV vaccine. Talk to your child's doctor about the vaccines they need—including the HPV vaccine. Click 'Lamm More' for more information.



DARTHOUTH COT QUALTRICS.COM

"Learn More" about HPV cancer prevention
vaccines, \$20 gift-cards for randomly selected...

∆ Like

Comment Comment

Share



The human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine is for both boys and girls to prevent six types of cancer caused by HPV. While some people worry about vaccine safety, the HPV vaccine has a long and strong history of being a very safe vaccine. Watch this video from the CDC to learn more about the vaccine's safety, and talk with your child's doctor about the vaccines they need—including the HPV vaccine. Click "Learn More" for more information. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dgmXKDiNya8



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"Learn More" about HPV cancer prevention
vaccines. \$20 gift-cards for randomly selected...

The Like Comment Share



The human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine prevents against six types of cancer caused by HPV, and it is safe. Before the HPV vaccines were licensed by the FDA, each want through years of testing to make sure they were safe. The vaccine's safety has continued to be studied in the 12 years since it became available in the U.S. a shown below, large safety studies throughout the U.S. and other countries continue to show that HPV vaccine is safe. All boy and gliris who are 11 or 12 years old should get the HPV vaccine to protect them against cancer. Talk to your child's doctor about the vaccines they need—including the HPV vaccine, Click "Learn More" for more information.



Share

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"Learn More" about HPV cancer prevention vaccines, \$20 gift-cards for randomly selected...

Léarn More

Léarn More

Abhare

Health Promotions
Sponsored - 3

Human papillomavirus (HPV) causes six types of cancer, but there is a vaccine that can prevent these cancers. Some people worny that vaccines like the HPV vaccine are just helping drug companies make money. Fortunately, that is not true. While vaccines protect each individual person against disease, they also have an important role in protecting everyone. A 2013 study found that over 103 million cases of disease in the U.S. have been prevented by vaccination in the last century. With the HPV vaccine, we can increase that number even more. All boys and girls who are 11 or 12 years old should get the HPV vaccine. Talk to your child's doctor about the vaccines they need, including the HPV vaccine. Click "Learn More" for more



"Learn More" about HPV cancer prevention vaccines, \$20 gift-cards for randomly selected...

The Like

S for randomly selected...



Learn More



### **Message testing experiments:**

- Kim & Hancock 2016, CR
- Kim & Niederdeppe 2014 JoHC

#### Pre-test survey measures:

- Demographic
- Environmental **Factors**
- & screening

Social media &

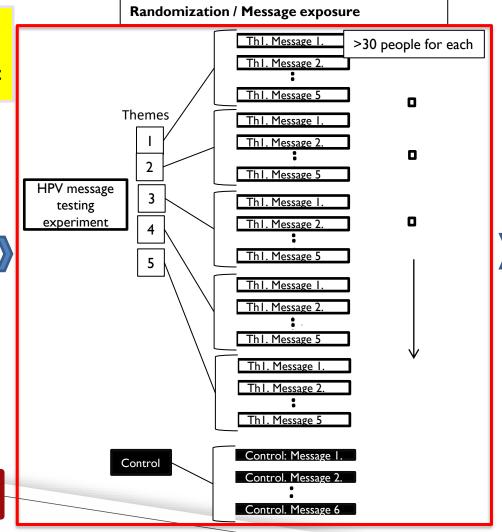
Crowdsourcing

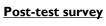
recruitment

for



information, Prior knowledge Issue involvement Attitudes toward HPV vaccine **HPV** vaccination status

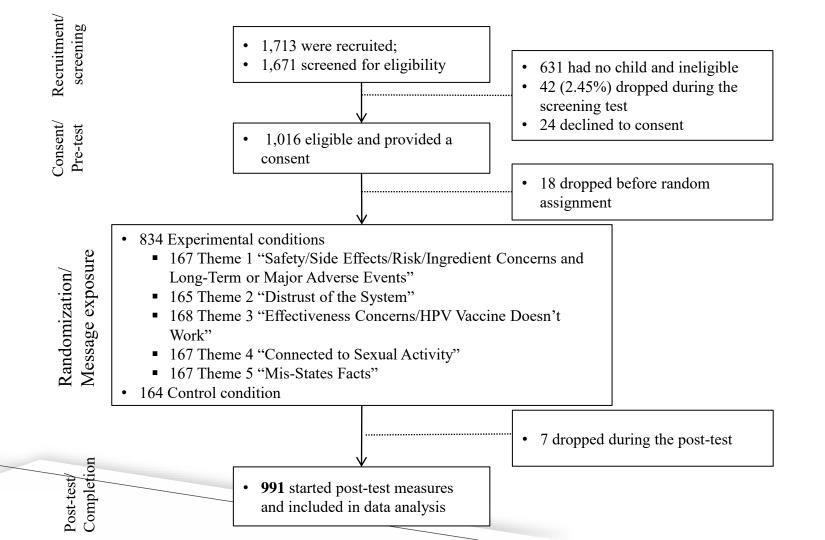


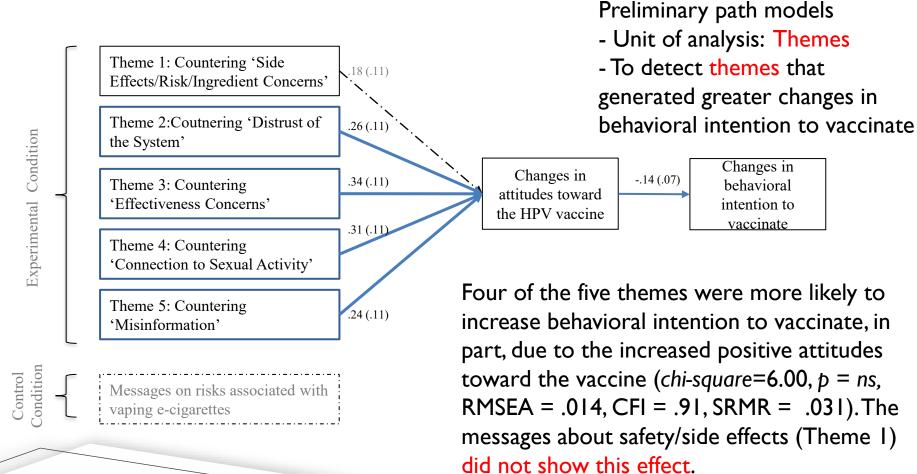


#### measures: Manipulation

- checks Attitudes toward
- HPV vaccine Behavioral intention to
- vaccinate their kids against HPV Message
- effectiveness
- Social Economic Status

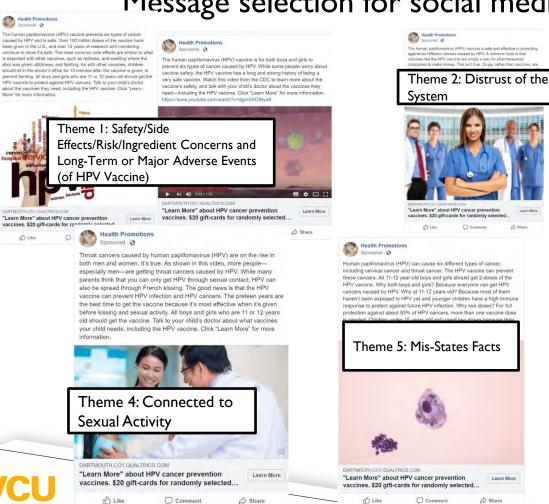








Message selection for social media campaigns



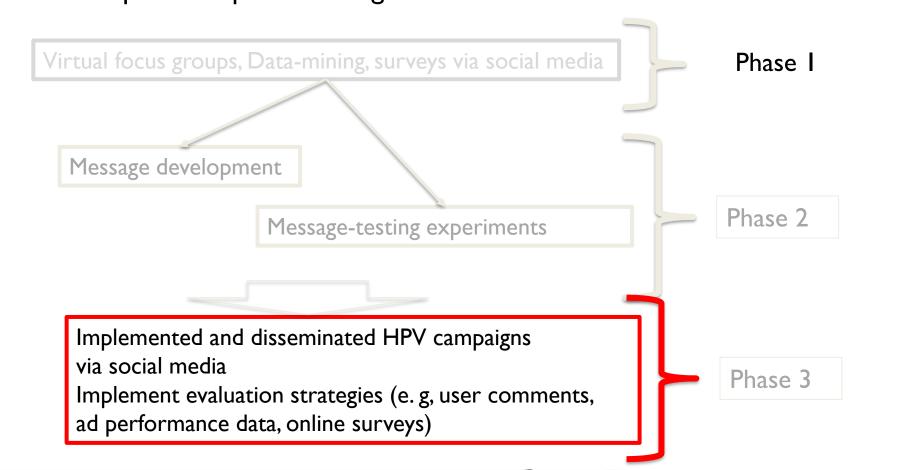
Sprace ("Study results show that the human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine is effective in preventing cancers caused by HPV. As you'll learn from the video and article linked below, among women who were vaccinated in Firland 15 years ago, none of them of HPV cancers—howing that this vaccine works in preventing entirely activated cancer and other types of cancer caused by HPV. In addition, we have seen a 71% decrease HPV infections that cause most which were also also that the properties of the second cancer and general search among leaving the vaccinated of the VLD to by your child you dotted about the vaccines they need—including the HPV.

Theme 3: Effectiveness Concerns/HPV Vaccine Doesn't Work



- Message effectiveness scores
- Rank order

# Methodological approach: Multiphase sequential designs of translational communication research





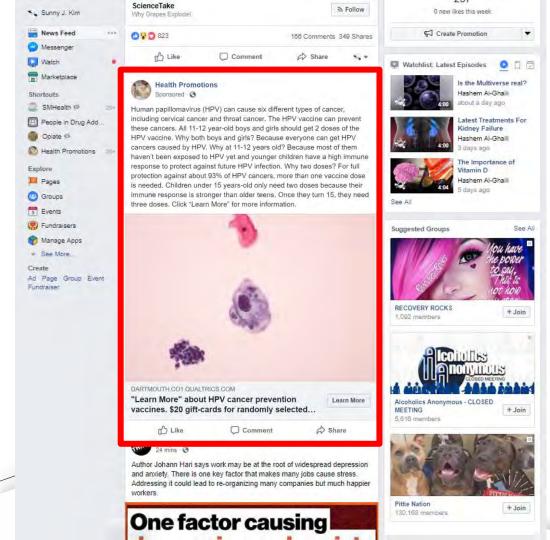
## Phase 3: HPV uptake social media campaign

### A systematic implementation of selected messages via Facebook ads



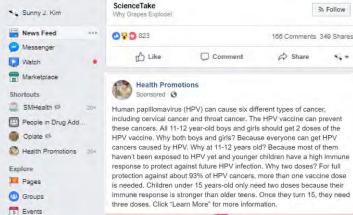
- ☐ Facebook Ads manager platform offers a rich set of audience targeting features
  - ☐ e.g., geographic and personal interests-based targeting
- ☐ Rapid prototyping for campaigns
  - ☐ Message exposure frequency
  - ☐ Health communication delivery over time
- ☐ Coordinated campaign timeline schedules





Disseminated pre-tested messages in a random order while controlling for:

- Content (tested messages only, randomized)
- Cost (fixed)
- Days of ads promotion
- Geo-targeting of message exposure (rural vs. urban areas by zip codes)



Fundraisers

- See More.

Create

Fundraiser

Manage Apps

Ad Page Group Event











5 Follow

56 \*





#### Welcome!

Information Sheet for The Survey

Cancer Center at Dartmouth and Sunny Kim, PhD from Virginia Commonwealth University. The study is to understand psychological and behavioral effects of messages promoting some pre-teen and teen health topics, including how parents process and

You are being asked to take part in a research study about some advertisements because you clicked our ads on social media for this study. We are interested in your thoughts about health-related messages about pre-teen and teen health. Please read this form carefully and ask any questions you may have before taking part in the study.

Background: The purpose of this study is to better understand how people think about different types of health-related messages. This project aims to learn about your psychological reactions and behavioral intentions toward the behavior promoted in the

Procedures: If you agree to participate in this study, we will ask you to read a message carefully. You will first be asked a set of questions to determine if you are eligible for the study; these questions are required but you can stop at any time. If you are eligible, you will be asked to complete a survey. We expect this to take less than 15 minutes. You may choose to not answer any or all of these questions.

Risks and discomforts



### Ad performance data

### Ad feature data

- Days ad was running
- Delivery Status
- Delivery Level
- Result Type (reach, traffic)
- ☐ Cost per Result
- ☐ Amount Spent

•

### Ad engagement data

- ☐ Reach
- ☐ Impressions
- Result Rate
- ☐ Frequency
- ☐ Link Clicks
- ☐ Page Engagement
- ☐ Page Likes
- ☐ Post Engagement
- □ Post Reactions
- Post Shares
- ☐ Unique Link Clicks
- ☐ Clicks All
- Post Comments





# Harnessing social technology

#### Translational research



- ☐ Persuasive technology
- ☐ Health communication
- ☐ Social/health psychology
- ☐ Science of behavior change

**Multiphase Sequential Designs** 



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