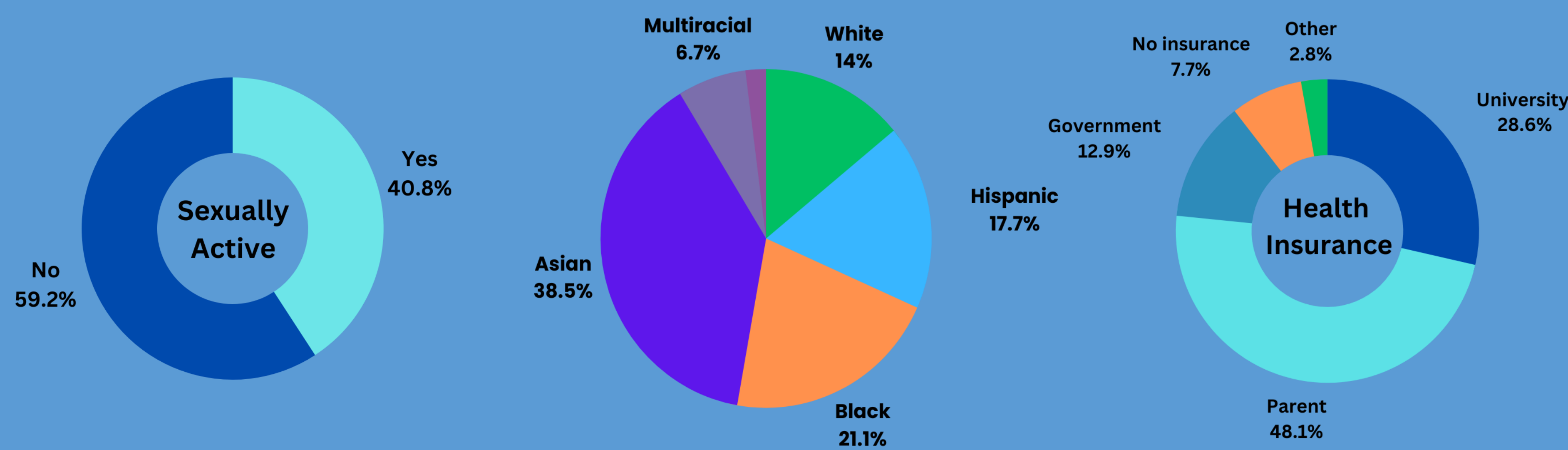


The role of general vaccine hesitancy in HPV vaccine intention among young adults

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Vaccine hesitancy is significantly associated with HPV vaccine intention after controlling for sociodemographic & health belief model variables.



BACKGROUND:

- HPV vaccination rates remain low despite the vaccine being a safe, effective means of preventing HPV-related cancers (1)
- HPV vaccination rates have declined since the COVID-19 pandemic, which may be due to increased vaccine hesitancy (2)
- Previous research examined the association between HPV-related factors and HPV vaccine intention, but not the role of general vaccine hesitancy (4-9)

The current study examined if general vaccine hesitancy is associated with HPV vaccine intent above & beyond established correlates from the Health Belief Model (HBM)

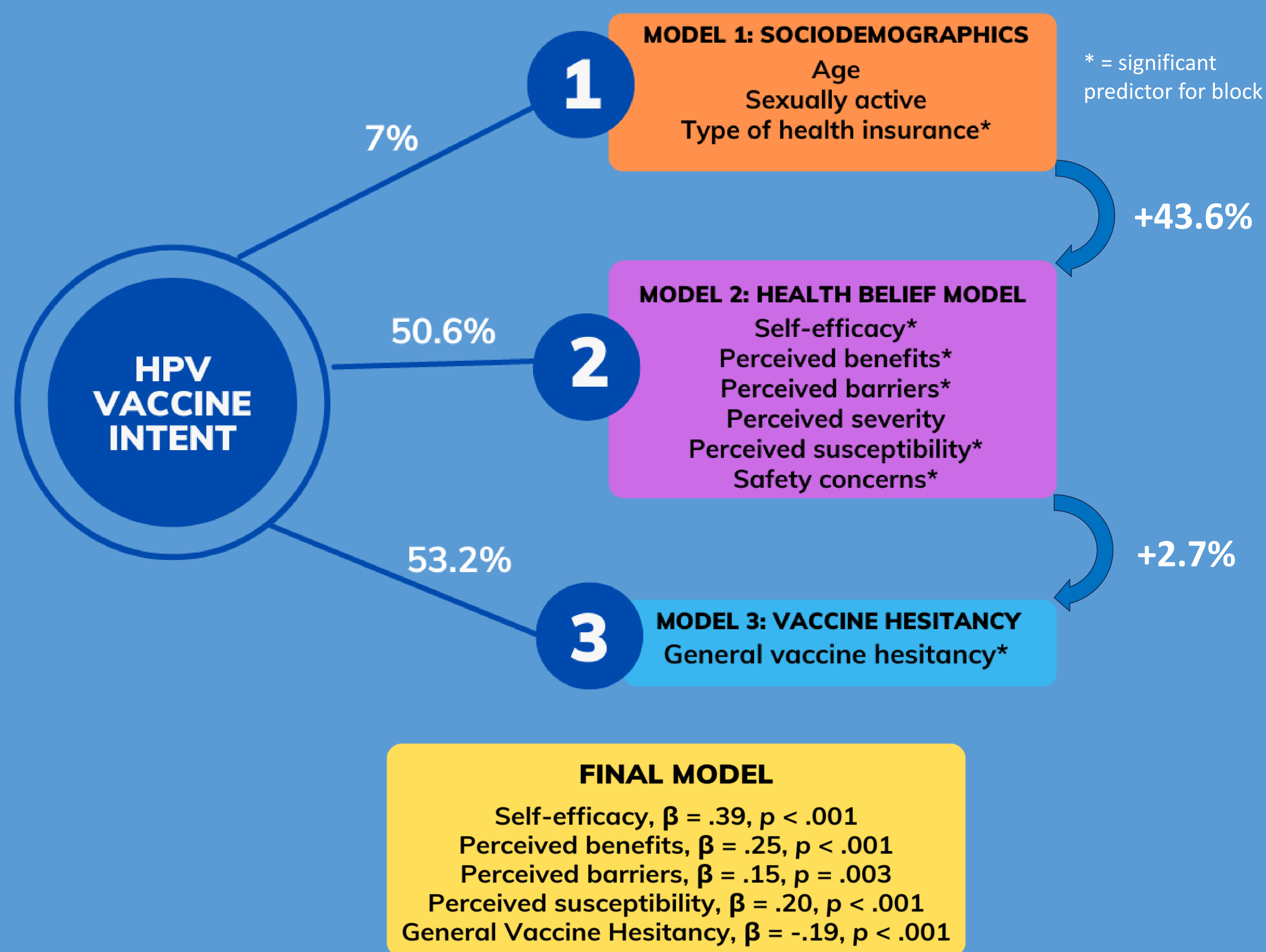
METHODS:

- Used baseline data from No-HPV-4-ME intervention study
- Participants completed an online survey before & after a vaccine intervention
- N = 298, unvaccinated 18- to 26-year-old college students
- Average age = 20.7 (2.1)
- 67.6% women (n = 202)

MEASURES:

- Sociodemographic information
- Health Belief Model (HBM)
 - Self-efficacy
 - 3 items, alpha = .73
 - Perceived benefits
 - 1 item
 - Perceived illness severity
 - 2 items, alpha = .75
 - Perceived susceptibility
 - 2 items, alpha = .78
 - Perceived barriers
 - 11 items, alpha = .78
 - Safety concerns
 - 5 items, alpha = .67
- General Vaccine Hesitancy
 - 1 item
- HPV Vaccine Intention
 - 4 items, alpha = .91

Hierarchical Regression Model and Model Variance



Means and standard deviations for regression variables**

Vaccine Intention	Vaccine Hesitancy	Self-efficacy	Perceived barriers	Perceived susceptibility	Perceived severity	Perceived benefits	Safety concerns
13.4 (4.5)	1.8 (0.8)	10.3 (2.9)	29.4 (8.6)	5.4 (4.3)	7.8 (2.2)	3.8 (1)	11.1 (3.3)

** Range for variable total scores can be found by scanning the QR code

RESULTS:

- Hierarchical regression was used to assess the contribution of general vaccine hesitancy in explaining HPV vaccine intention above & beyond those contributed by sociodemographic and HBM variables
- All models were significantly related to HPV vaccine intent
- General vaccine hesitancy accounted for a significant amount of variance above & beyond sociodemographic & HBM factors (+1.9%)
- In the final model, self-efficacy had the strongest relationship to HPV vaccine intention, followed by perceived benefits, perceived susceptibility, & general vaccine hesitancy

Hierarchical Model Summary

Model	R Square	Adjusted R Square	R Square Change	ANOVA p value	F Change p value
Model 1	.070	.052	.070	.002	.002
Model 2	.506	.484	.436	< .001	< .001
Model 3	.532	.510	.027	< .001	< .001

DISCUSSION:

- General vaccine hesitancy plays an important role in explaining HPV vaccine intention
- General vaccine hesitancy accounts for variance not explained by HBM factors that are typically used to predict HPV vaccine intention and uptake
- General vaccine hesitancy should be addressed in vaccine interventions in addition to HPV-related factors
- Addressing general hesitancy may increase HPV vaccine uptake, preventing future cases of HPV-related cancers

RESPONSIBLE CONDUCT:

- Data was deidentified & handled securely to protect sensitive information, such as sexual activity & health beliefs
- Data was self-reported & relied on participant accuracy & disclosure regarding vaccination, stigma, and sexual activity & may be vulnerable to social desirability bias



Scan for references & scale information