

# Lack of Vaccination Coverage in the Patient Population of a Student-Run Free Clinic



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## Background

- Infectious disease is a major cause of morbidity and mortality in the United States but may not be affordable or available to everyone [1].
- Located in an urban, underserved area, the Camden Community Health Center (CCHC) provided free primary care services from 1999-2018 to mostly Camden County residents (87% of patrons).
- CCHC has reopened as the Rowan Community Health Center (RCHC) in Lindenwold, NJ and is in the process making vaccines and vaccination education available.

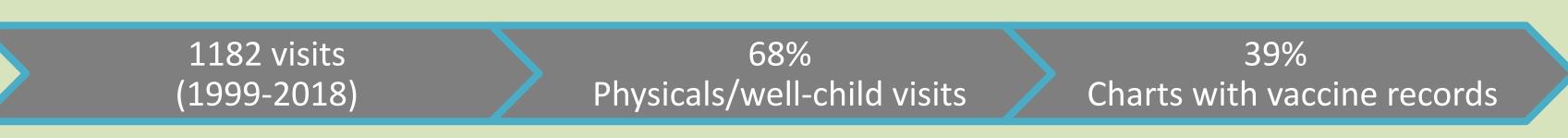
### Purpose

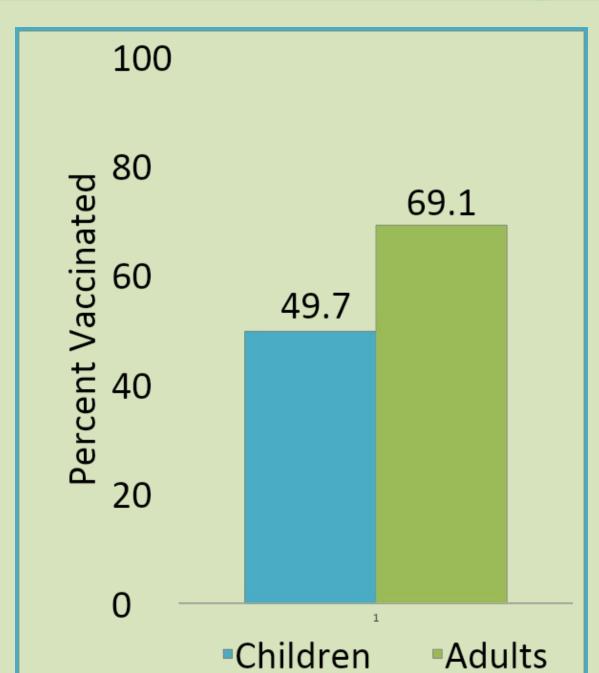
- Determine vaccination coverage of individuals that utilize free clinic services
- Determine how CCHC outcomes compare to county and national data
- Outline how to improve further awareness and patient education of vaccinations at RCHC (after reopening)

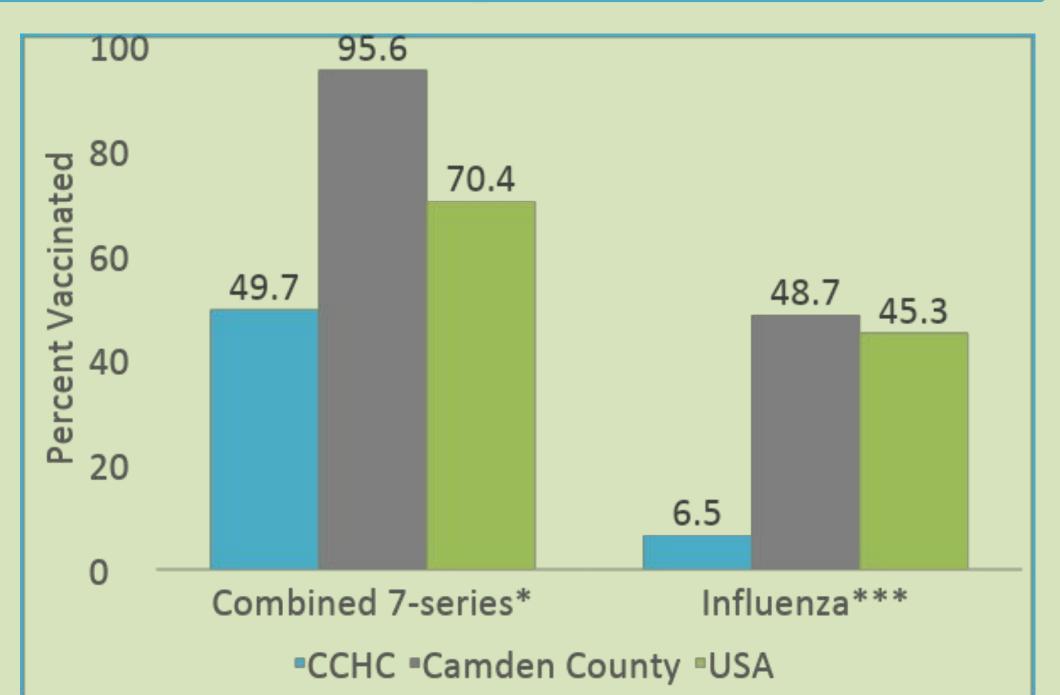
#### Methods

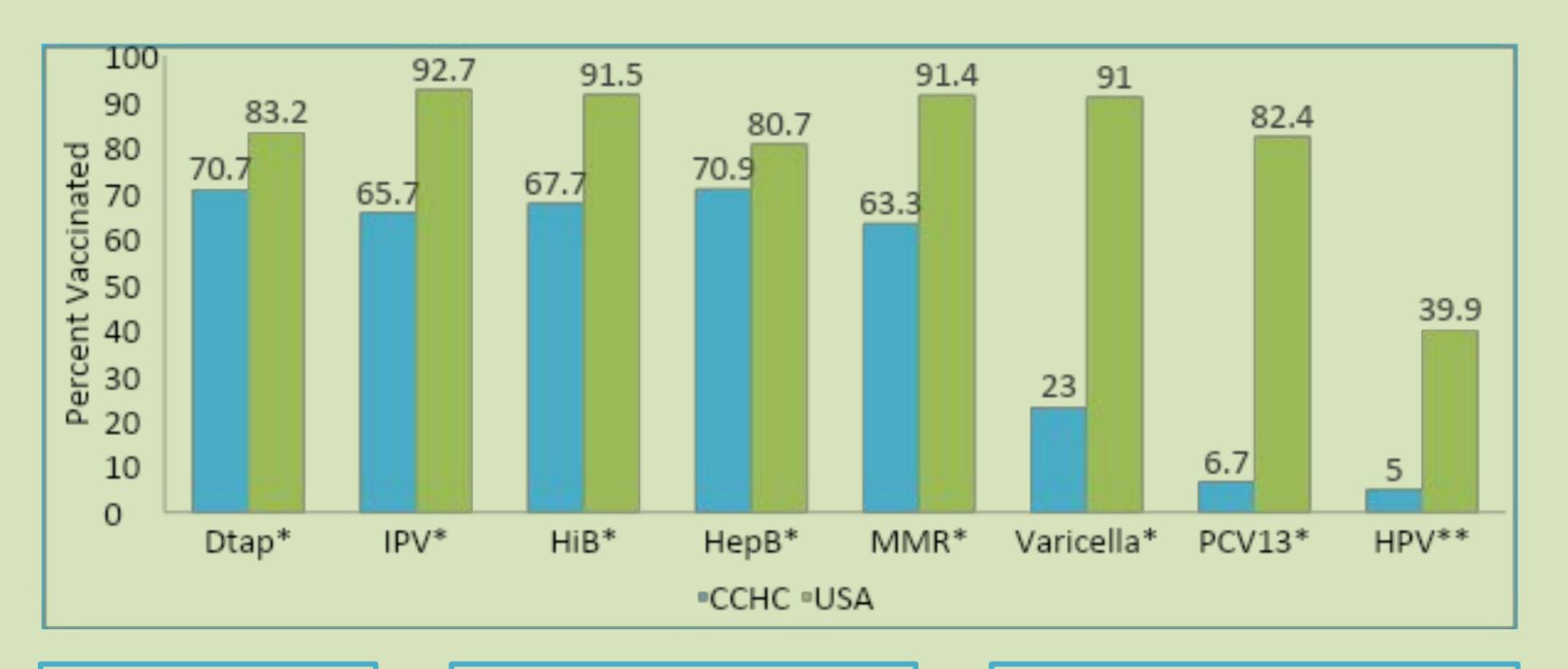
- IRB-approved retrospective chart review of individuals that visited CCHC for medical care
- Demographic information (age, gender, town of residence) and vaccination records were reviewed for a history of at least one vaccination of DTap, IPV, HiB, HepB, MMR, Varicella, MenB, PCV13/PPSV23, HPV, and the annual flu vaccine
- County data were obtained from NJSHAD and the NJ DOH [2].
- National data were obtained from the CDC NHIS [1,3,4].
- Means were calculated for continuous variables, while all categorical variables were described as percentages and frequencies, which were compared to county and national data.
- Charts that did not include vaccination data were excluded

#### Results









Female: 56.8% > 18 years old: 76%

Average age of children: 13±4 Average age of adults: 40±15

\*rates among children 19-35 months \*\*rates among adults 18-26

\*\*\*rates among adults >18

#### Conclusion

- Vaccination coverage was lower among the clinic population than county and national rates across all combined 7-series, influenza, and HPV vaccines [1-4]. This suggests an accessibility, affordability, and/or education issue.
- Of 286 children, only 49.65% were noted to have up-to-date vaccinations
- Most charts were missing immunization status information, suggesting a lack of uniform data collection

Next Steps to Increase Vaccination Coverage at RCHC:

- Partnering with local organizations to ensure proper referrals for free/affordable immunization services.
- Providing certain immunizations on site for patients
- Developing educational programs in order to increase awareness
- Implementing EMR use for consistent health information collection

#### References

- 1. VaxView. (2016, October 06). Retrieved July 10, 2020, from https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/vaxview/index.html
- 2. DOH (n.d.). New Jersey State Health Assessment Data New Jersey's Public Health Data Resource. Retrieved July 10, 2020, from

https://www-doh.state.nj.us/doh-shad/home/Welcome.html

- 3. FastStats Immunization. (2017, March 17). Retrieved July 10, 2020, from https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/fastats/immunize.htm
- 4. Boersma P, Black LI. Human papillomavirus vaccination among adults aged 18–26, 2013–2018. NCHS Data Brief, no 354. Hyattsville, MD: National Center for Health Statistics. 2020.