

Title:

A systematic review on the behavioural factors affecting uptake of HPV vaccine among adolescents in West Africa subregion.

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Background: Human papillomavirus (HPV) is a leading cause of cervical cancer, yet vaccine uptake among adolescents in West Africa remains low despite expanding programmes. Although behavioural determinants strongly influence vaccination decisions, no reviews in this region have systematically examined these factors using a behavioural theory such as the Capability, Opportunity, and Motivation (COM-B) model.

Objective: To identify and synthesise behavioural factors influencing HPV vaccine uptake among adolescents aged 9-14 years in West African countries using the COM-B model.

Methods: This systematic review will include qualitative, quantitative, and mixed-methods studies conducted in West Africa and published in English between January 2006 and October 2025. MEDLINE, PubMed, Embase, PsycINFO, Scopus, and Web of Science will be searched. Study selection, data extraction, and quality appraisal will be conducted independently by two reviewers. A framework-based synthesis will map findings to COM-B components.

Results: The review is ongoing and will synthesise behavioural barriers and facilitators to HPV vaccine uptake, including knowledge and health literacy, access to vaccination services and social influences, and beliefs, trust, and perceived risk.

Conclusion: This review will provide a theory-informed synthesis to guide culturally appropriate interventions and policies aimed at improving HPV vaccination uptake in West Africa.

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