Cervical Cancer Screening Implementation

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ABSTRACT

BACKGROUND
Conventional healthcare facilities, operate with restricted hours and offer minimal services on weekends which pose challenges for women seeking primary care services during more non-traditional times.

METHODS
A Saturday Pap Clinic was introduced to provide a solution for women facing barriers to access screening during the weekdays. The study employed female advanced-practice providers from primary care, every Saturday from 8 a.m. to noon. The electronic medical record (EMR) identified eligible women overdue for cervical cancer screenings and advertised these expanded hours.

RESULTS
Over two years, this study demonstrated a sustained 86.15% fill rate and an improved screening rate of 76.92%, highlighting the effectiveness in reaching improved screening in greater numbers of women.

CONCLUSIONS
The Saturday Pap Clinic has succeeded, demonstrating the efficacy of innovative outreach strategies in improving screening rates. However, further work is required to address disparities among the remaining eligible population.

OBJECTIVES
1. Understand the effectiveness of non-traditional appointment strategies in increasing cervical cancer screening compliance.
2. Explore the impact of offering Saturday Pap Clinic appointments on cervical cancer screening compliance rates.
3. Evaluate the success and challenges in addressing the unique scheduling constraints faced by women who work during the week, have childcare/caregiver issues, or prefer weekend/evening appointments.

METHODS
The Pap smear clinic was open 8 a.m. to noon each Saturday and was staffed by female advanced-practice providers.

The EMR was used to identify eligible and overdue women for cervical cancer screening. 12,025 local patients were identified as eligible for a Saturday Pap Smear Clinic visit.

A fast pass system was used to allow patients to move up their appointments as desired. Unfilled pap smear slots were used for acute appointments.

RESULTS
Cervical cancer screening rates improved from 65.97% to 76.92%.

Table 1: Demographics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Demographic</th>
<th>Category/Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Race</td>
<td>White 70.60%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Language</td>
<td>English 94.70%</td>
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<tr>
<td>PCP</td>
<td>Female 59.40%</td>
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Table 1: Demographics of patients attending Saturday Pap Clinic and having pap smear performed.

Median age of attendees was 44, 70.6% identified as white, 94.7% spoke English, and 59.4% of participants’ PCPs were female.

Pap smears performed showed 13.8% were abnormal, with 8.1% having an HPV abnormality.

REFERENCES