

Acceptability and Clinical Utility of HPV Self-Sampling in Transgender Men

CERVICAL CANCER SCREENING

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Introduction:

Transgender men with an intact cervix remain an underserved population in cervical cancer screening programs due to barriers such as gender dysphoria, stigma, and limited access to gender-affirming healthcare.

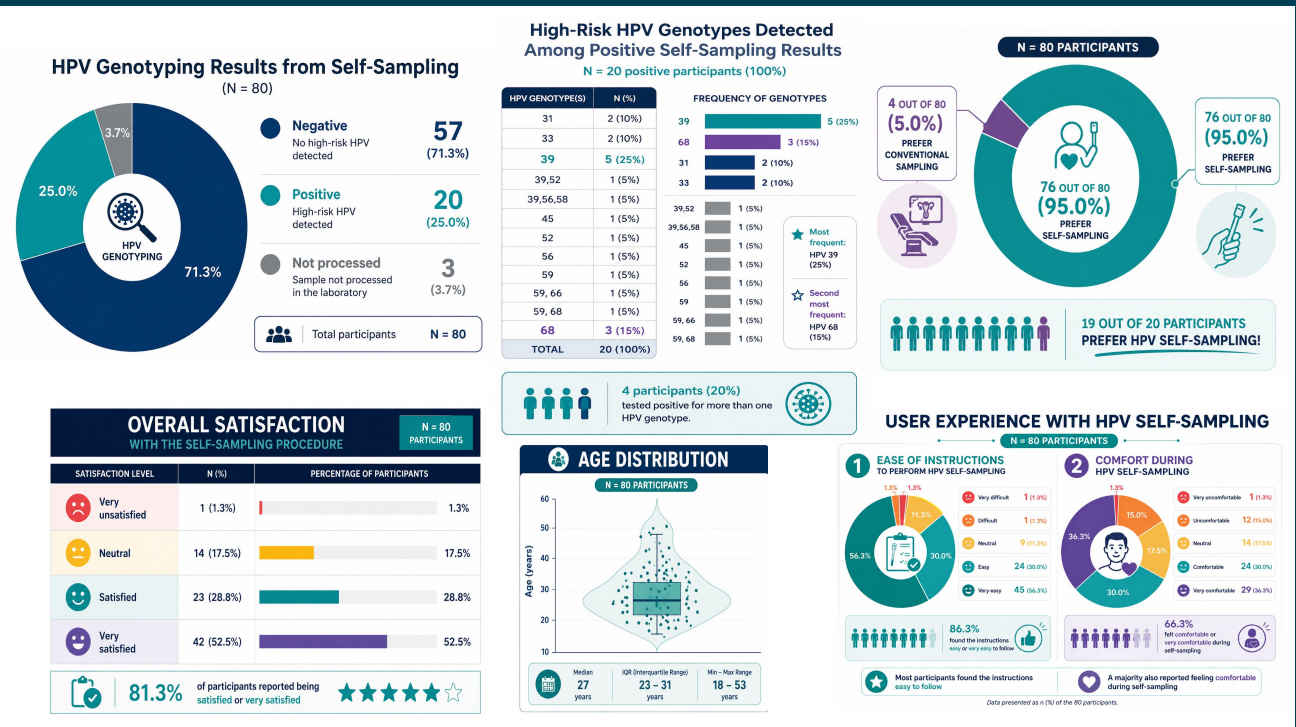
HPV self-sampling has emerged as a potential strategy to improve screening uptake and acceptability in this population.

Objective: To evaluate the acceptability and clinical utility of HPV self-sampling among transgender men attending a gender clinic in Bogotá, Colombia.

Methods:

A cross-sectional study was conducted in 2025 among transgender men with an intact cervix attending the Gender Clinic of the Subred Integrada de Servicios de Salud Norte in Bogotá, Colombia. Participants performed vaginal self-sampling for high-risk HPV testing and completed a standardized acceptability survey. Sociodemographic and clinical data were collected, and descriptive statistical analyses were performed.

Results:



Conclusions:

In our study, the mean age of the participants was 27 years. Most reported feeling comfortable during self-sampling and considered it easy to use. Only 20% experienced minor difficulties related to limited anatomical knowledge, resulting in mild pain as a minor complication. Self-sampling was preferred over conventional sampling by healthcare professional.. These findings may contribute to academic knowledge and support improvements in public health policies by enhancing access and quality of care for transgender men in cervical cancer screening. This study highlights the need for more inclusive healthcare and recommends multicenter studies to improve representativeness and external validity.

References:

