

# View on human papillomavirus vaccination among at-risk men in Wuxi, China: a cross-sectional study



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## Introduction

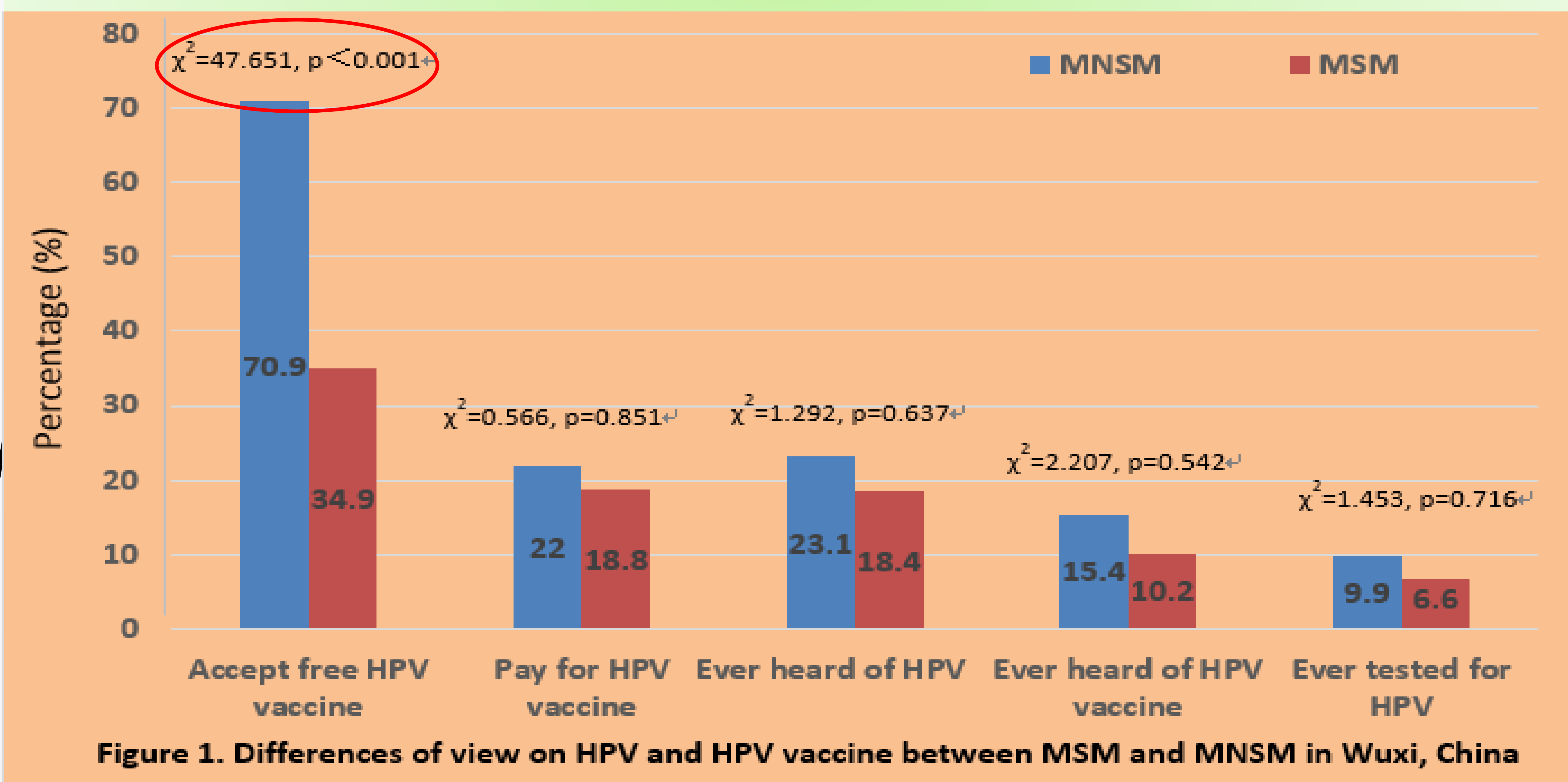
The quadrivalent HPV vaccine is efficacious in preventing ano-genital warts and anal epithelial neoplasia, among both men who have sex with men (MSM) and men who do not have sex with men (MNSM). Selective HPV vaccination targeting these at-risk men may be necessary in addition to female vaccination. The knowledge of and attitude toward HPV in these groups have not been well documented.

## Methods

We enrolled MSM and MNSM from the largest sexual health clinic in Wuxi, China. A self-administered questionnaire was collected with information on socio-demographic characteristics, sexual behaviors, HIV testing, awareness of HPV, HPV vaccine and acceptance of HPV vaccination. We compared perception of and factors associated with HPV uptake between the two groups of men.

## Findings

A number of 186 MSM and 182 MNSM were recruited. Differences in view on HPV and HPV vaccine between these two groups were shown in Figure 1. Only 26.2% of MSM and 20.2% of MNSM were willing to take free HPV vaccine before the ages of 20 and 19 when they commenced their sexual behaviors. MSM preferring receptive anal sex (OR: 3.8, 95%CI: 1.7-13.5), never using condom in anal sex in the past 6 months (3.4, 1.4-20.1), ever diagnosed with STIs (3.3, 1.2-8.3) and ever receiving HIV/AIDS related service (1.6, 1.1-4.3) were more likely to accept free HPV vaccine. MNSM having female commercial sex (1.7, 1.2-8.5), never using condom in commercial sex (1.9, 1.3-8.5) and diagnosis of an STI (2.0, 1.6-7.2) were more likely to accept free HPV vaccine.



## Conclusion

Sexually active MSM and MNSM in China lacked knowledge of HPV. The majority of homosexual men would not benefit from HPV vaccination as their sexual debut precedes vaccine uptake. Aggressive education aimed at increasing knowledge of HPV and HPV vaccination among these men is warranted.