Preventing Post-Vaccination Presyncope and Syncope in Adolescents Using Simple, Clinic-based Interventions: a Randomized-Controlled Trial (NCT04772755)

Michael J. Smith MD, MSCE

Duke University School of Medicine
michael.j.smith@duke.edu

PAS 2023



Disclosure



Dr. Smith has disclosed the following financial relationships. Any real or apparent conflicts of interest related to the content of this presentation have been resolved.

Affiliation / Financial Interest	Organization
Research Support for Current Study	Centers for Diseases Control and Prevention
Research Contracts Paid to Institution for	Pfizer
COVID clinical trials	



Unapproved or Off Label



Disclosures for

Michael J. Smith MD, MSCE

Presenter: Dr. Smith has documented this presentation *will not* involve discussion of unapproved or off-label, experimental or investigational use.





Background and Study Design



- There are no evidence-based recommendations for the prevention of postvaccination syncope
- Randomized-controlled trial of adolescents receiving at least one IM vaccine
 - 1:1 randomization to usual care or a combined intervention consisting of Buzzy® (vibration and cool pack device, reduces injection site pain) and electronic game (active distraction)
- Primary objective: Assess the efficacy of the intervention to decrease presyncope, a surrogate for syncope
- Secondary objectives: pre- and post-vaccination anxiety, post-vaccination pain, acceptability





Results



- 340 adolescents (10-14 years) enrolled
 - 332 included in the modified intention to treat group
- There was a 25% reduction in presyncope in the intervention group
 - 48% versus 36%, (p = 0.02)
- Pain at 1-3 minutes was also decreased in the intervention group
 - Mean Wong-Baker Faces Pain Score 3.3 vs 2.5 (p = 0.006)
 - Proportion with Pain Score > 4
 - 46% versus 32% (p = 0.009)
- There was no difference in state anxiety between the two study groups





Conclusions



- The combination of Buzzy® and distraction with video games decreased the risk of post-vaccination presyncope by 25%
- This efficacy was likely driven by decreases in pain 1-3 minutes post-vaccination
- The study interventions were well-accepted by participants



