Factors Effecting Parental Decision-making in Measles, Mumps, and Rubella Vaccine Determination: An Integrative Review of the Literature

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Factors Effecting Parental Decision Making in Measles, Mumps, and Rubella Determination: An Integrative Review of the Literature
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Background
Measles, Mumps, and Rubella (MMR) are diseases that can be vaccinated against but have had a recent increase in incidence. The vaccination is not mandatory, allowing parents to decide whether or not to vaccinate their child. Health decision-making is multifaceted including many sources of information and factors that surround it. This complicates decision-making especially regarding the MMR vaccination.

Conceptual Framework
The Health Belief Model framework consists of three major categories including individual beliefs, modifying factors, and the likelihood of action. This served to explain how people make health-related decisions.

Methods
A search from CINAHL Complete and PsychINFO, where the terms vaccination, decision making, and MMR were used, yielded 15 unique articles after exclusion criteria was applied. Articles were evaluated and the Health Belief Model was used to identify factors that effect decision-making.

Results
Main themes that were drawn from the literature include general safety concerns, risks of the disease, individualized factors of the child, and many aspects surrounding healthcare professionals. These factors can be either negative, causing a rejection of the vaccine, and positive, causing engagement, depending on the parents’ interpretation.

Nursing Implications
This information can be used by healthcare professionals allowing them to be more aware of the role that they play within the decision-making process for parents. This can allow them to provide comprehensive information to parents regarding vaccination with the MMR vaccine.

Future Research
Future research should be aimed at pairing the parents’ views and what they identify as factors with their final decision regarding the MMR vaccine. This would allow the behavior to be studied in congruence with the parents’ appraisal of information.

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