

Testicular Cancer Education for College Age Men

Jared Bozeman
jjbozeman@msn.com

Background

- ▶ Testicular Cancer (TC) is most common type of cancer in 18 to 35 year old males
- ▶ Risk factors
 - Age: 9 out of 10 cases in 18 to 35 year old age group
 - Race: most common in Caucasians
 - Undescended testicles increase risk
 - Other risk factors not well understood
- ▶ Rapidly Metastasizes
- ▶ However, easily treated
 - About 95% of cases cured regardless of stage
 - 99% cured in earliest stages
- ▶ Checked for with testicular self exam (TSE)
 - Easy to perform
 - Allows early detection

TC and masculinity

- ▶ Most men do not perform TSE
- ▶ Men treated with TC usually do not lose fertility and sexual abilities
- ▶ Men tend to be less proactive about health than women
 - Self exams
 - Visits to health care providers
- ▶ Research question: how do masculine attitudes relate to knowledge about TC and performance of the TSE?

Education and TC

- ▶ Some studies indicate knowledge about TC important for encouraging TSE performance
- ▶ High efficacy, factual approach (Morman, 2000)
 - What one can do about threat
 - More effective than narrative
- ▶ Research question: is peer delivered education using a factual, high efficacy approach an effective education tool?

Procedure

- ▶ Approved by MSU's IRB
- ▶ All participants given consent form
- 1. Administer pre-presentation survey to participants
- 2. Deliver presentation
- 3. Administer post-presentation survey
- 4. Participants offered \$50 gift card as incentive

Pre-presentation Survey

- ▶ Delivered by web-based Zoomerang software (zoomerang.com) to ensure anonymity
- ▶ Asses knowledge about TC and the TSE
- ▶ Asses masculine attitudes
 - Specific to TC
 - general masculine attitudes
 - Based upon Barriers to Help Seeking Scale (BHSS) designed to asses masculine attitudes (Mansfield, 2005)
