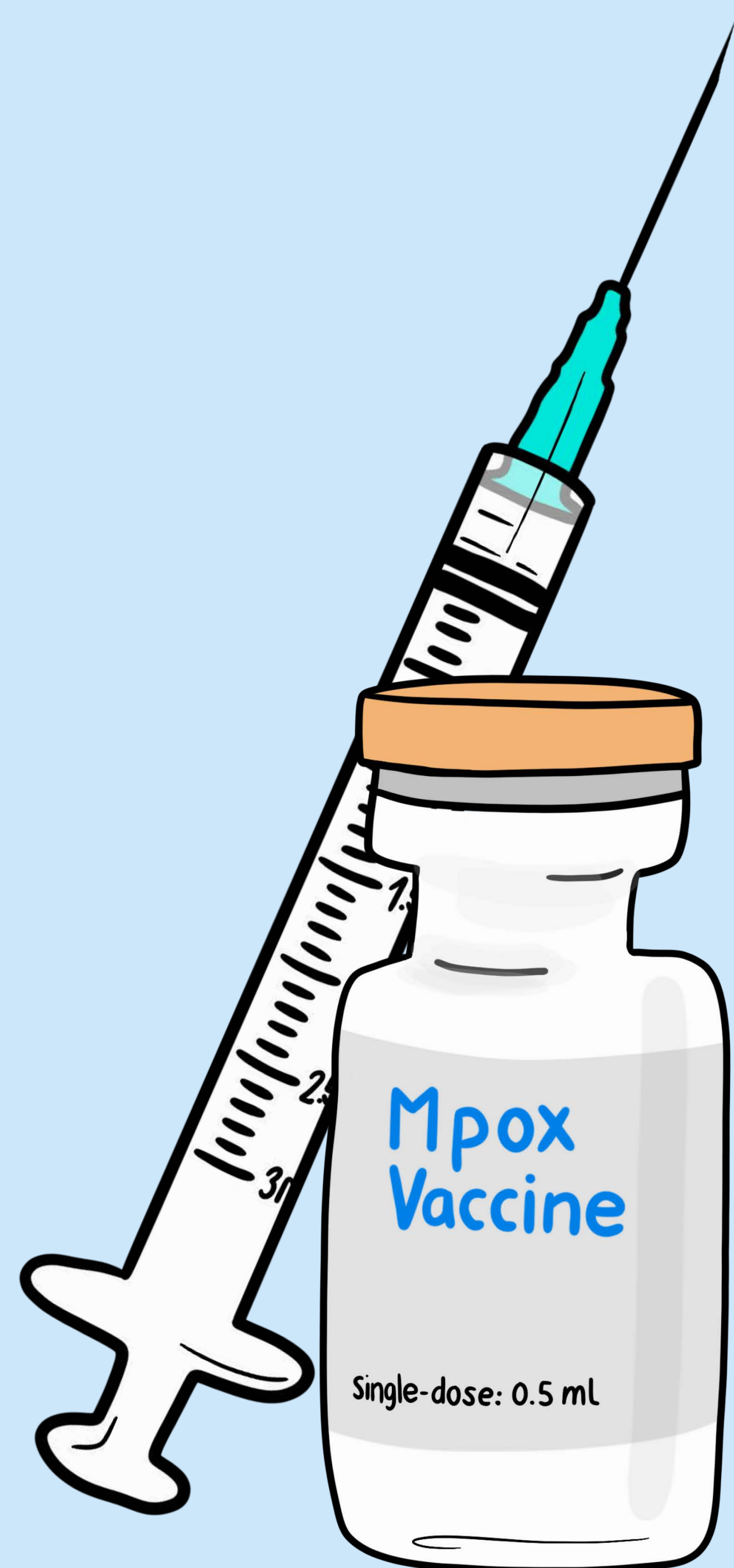


Illustrations: Rayka Kumru



Among eligible 2S/TGBM clients of a sexual health clinic in Vancouver, BC, 54% had received two doses of Mpx vaccine.

Low awareness of a second dose being available was a main reason why many had not received it.

The survey was conducted from May 31- June 14 2023, nine months after BC introduced a second dose of Mpx vaccine.

Why is this important?

Mpx vaccine series requires two doses of the vaccine for best protection. Measuring uptake of both doses, and assessing who did and didn't receive the second dose, is important for evaluating this vaccine program for Two-Spirit and transgender people and gay, bisexual and other men who have sex with men (2S/TGBM) in BC. Our findings confirmed the importance of ongoing Mpx promotional efforts and awareness campaigns.

What did we do?

We invited clients to an online survey who had:

- Visited a sexual health clinic in Vancouver, BC,
- Participated in a baseline Mpx vaccine uptake survey in summer 2022, and
- Consented to be contacted for follow-up.

We focused our analysis on 2S/TGBM participants who were eligible to receive Mpx vaccine. We described completion of two doses, and used bivariate analyses to assess factors associated with receiving two doses.

People who completed two-doses of Mpx vaccine were more likely to:

- Believe themselves at risk of Mpx
- Believe Mpx vaccine is effective
- Know someone who had Mpx
- Know someone who received a 2nd dose.

What did we find?

Among 128 2ST/GBM participants eligible for the Mpx vaccine, 54% had completed two doses.

Many of those receiving one dose only were willing to receive it (65%), but had not known a second dose was available (47%), did not know where to get it (35%), and reported challenges accessing clinics (21%).

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