Health Care Provider Toolkit

You Are the Key to HPV Cancer Prevention
The Facts about Human Papillomavirus (HPV)

- HPV infection is **most common** in people in their **teens and early 20s**
- Most people will never know that they have been infected
- There are **14 million** new infections every year in the U.S.

Most females and males will be infected with at least one type of mucosal HPV at some point in their lives.

A large **majority of cancers caused by HPV** are brought about by one of two types: **HPV 16 or 18**

There are more than **9,000 HPV cancers** diagnosed in U.S. men each year.

- **There is one new cancer caused by HPV every 20 minutes**
- HPV can cause anal cancer, mouth/throat (oropharyngeal) cancer and genital warts in both men and women
- Nearly **18,000 women in the U.S.** are diagnosed with a cancer caused by **HPV** each year

- **Together, HPV types 16 and 18 cause about 22,000 cases of cancer in the U.S. each year**
- An estimated **79 million Americans are currently infected with HPV**
- Persistent HPV infection can cause cervical, vaginal and vulvar cancers in women and penile cancer in men
Adolescent Vaccines:

Three vaccines are routinely recommended for boys and girls ages 11-12 years: HPV, tetanus, diphtheria, acellular pertussis (Tdap) and meningococcal conjugate vaccine (MCV4). Additionally, seasonal flu vaccine is recommended for all individuals over 6 months.

National HPV Vaccination Rates:

HPV vaccination lags behind other vaccinations for this age group and is far below the Healthy People 2020 goal of 80%.

HPV Vaccination in Virginia:

National Immunization Survey data show that in Virginia in 2014, 91% of teens aged 13-17 years had received one or more dose of Tdap vaccine and 72.5% had received one or more dose of MCV4 vaccine. In contrast, only 59.2% of girls and 36.3% of boys had received one or more dose of HPV vaccine. Furthermore, only 35.9% of girls and 22.5% of boys aged 13-17 had completed the three-dose series. In Virginia, HPV vaccine is school mandated for girls, whereas MCV4 vaccine is not, yet the MCV4 coverage rates are consistently higher. In comparison to the strong coverage rates for Tdap, there are opportunities to improve both HPV and MCV4 vaccination rates.

Resources:

Immunization Schedules - For Health Care Professionals
Talking to parents about HPV VACCINE

“Your preteen needs three vaccines today that provide protection against meningitis, HPV cancers and pertussis.”

• Most of the time HPV has no signs or symptoms and resolves on its own
  o Even asymptomatic infections can be passed from person to person
  o This can make it impossible to tell when a person came in contact with HPV
• People can have more than one type of HPV at a time
• HPV can cause warts, cellular changes or cancer
• Warts can be located in the anogenital or oropharyngeal areas and develop most commonly from HPV types 6 and 11 (low risk types)
  o About 360,000 people in the U.S. get genital warts each year
• Cancers develop most commonly from HPV types 16 and 18 (high-risk types)

Low HPV vaccination rates are leaving another generation of boys and girls vulnerable to vaccine preventable cancers. CDC is looking to providers to make a strong recommendation for HPV vaccination for all boys and girls ages 11-12 years old. An HPV vaccine series not already administered at ages 11-12 should be administered as soon as possible following the [Child](#) or [Adult Immunization Schedules](#) published by the Center for Disease Control (CDC).
HPV Vaccines **Protect against HPV** Related Cancers, Precancers and Genital Warts

- **2vHPV Vaccine**
  - Cervical Cancer
  - Cervical Precancer

- **4vHPV Vaccine**
  - Cervical Cancer & Precancer
  - Vaginal, Vulvar and Anal Cancer
  - Genital Warts

- **9vHPV Vaccine**
  - Additional Cervical Cancer & Precancer
  - Vaginal, Vulvar and Anal Cancer
  - Genital Warts
HPV Vaccine Recommendations

- Routine vaccination at age 11 or 12 years*
- Vaccination recommended through **age 26 for females** and through **age 21 for males** not previously vaccinated
  - Men ages 22 – 26 may receive the vaccine
  - Vaccination recommended for men **through age 26** who have sex with men (MSM) or who are immunocompromised (including HIV-infected persons)

*Can be administered at ages 9-10

If the HPV vaccine product previously administered is unavailable, unknown or if administration is in a setting transitioning to 9vHPV:

- **Females:** Any HPV vaccine product may be used to continue or complete the series
- **Males:** 4vHPV or 9vHPV may be used to continue or complete the series

2vHPV, 4vHPV and 9vHPV are each administered in a 3-dose schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Interval</th>
<th>Length</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1→2</td>
<td>1-2 months</td>
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<tr>
<td>1→3</td>
<td>6 months</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2→3</td>
<td>16 weeks*</td>
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*minimum interval from dose 2→3 is 12 weeks and from dose 1→3 is 24 weeks

9vHPV Vaccine provides protection against HPV types 6 and 11 (which cause anal and genital warts), HPV types 16 and 18 (high-risk types that cause the most HPV related cancers) and HPV types 31, 33, 45, 52 and 58, which cause additional HPV related cancers in both males and females.
A 2014 study showed that providers do not think that parents consider HPV vaccine to be as important as other vaccines, but parents rate HPV vaccine importance just as high as all of the other vaccines for children and adolescents.

Many moms in focus groups stated that they trust their child’s doctor and would get the vaccine for their child as long as they received a recommendation from the doctor.
Make an Effective Recommendation

Recommend HPV Vaccine the Same Way and the Same Day

Effective recommendations group all of the adolescent vaccines together. Recommend HPV vaccination the same way you recommend Tdap and MCV4 vaccines.

Recommend HPV vaccine today. Recommend HPV vaccination the same day you recommend Tdap and MCV4 vaccines.

Parent-friendly Schedules & Poster Resources:

- HPV Print Materials
- Immunization Schedules for Preteens and Teens and Adults

Normalize HPV vaccine by making a bundled recommendation along with Tdap and MCV4 vaccines. Include a seasonal flu vaccine recommendation if indicated.
When Parents Have Questions
Ask, Acknowledge, Advise

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Many parents accept a bundled recommendation</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sometimes parents are hesitant</td>
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<tr>
<td>Some parents may be interested in vaccinating, yet still have questions</td>
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| **Ask** | - Clarify & restate their concerns to make sure you understand  
- Inquire about their main concern |
|**Acknowledge** | - Emphasize that it is the parents’ decision  
- Acknowledge risks and conflicting information sources  
- Applaud them for wanting what is best for their child  
- Be clear that you are concerned for the health of their child, not just public health safety |
|**Advise** | - Allow time to discuss the pros and cons of vaccines  
- Be willing to discuss parents’ ideas  
- Offer written resources for parents  
- Tailor your advice using the Ask, Acknowledge, Advise approach or utilize CDC’s [Addressing Parents’ Top Questions about HPV Vaccine](#) |

Interpret questions as: Parents need additional reassurance from YOU, the clinician, who they trust with their child’s health care.
# Addressing Parents’ Top Questions about HPV VACCINE

Parents may be interested in vaccinating, yet still have questions. Some parents might just need additional information from you, the clinician they trust. Taking the time to answer their questions and address their concerns can help parents to accept a recommendation for HPV vaccination.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WHEN PARENTS SAY:</th>
<th>TRY SAYING:</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Why does my child need the HPV vaccine?</td>
<td>HPV vaccine is important because it prevents cancer. That is why I recommend that your daughter/son be vaccinated today.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What diseases are caused by HPV?</td>
<td>Certain HPV types can cause cancer of the cervix, vagina, and vulva in females, cancer of the penis in men, and in both females and males, cancers of the anus and the throat. We can help prevent infection with the HPV types that cause these cancers by starting the HPV vaccine series for your child today.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Is my child really at risk for HPV?</td>
<td>HPV is a very common and widespread virus that infects both females and males. We can help protect your child from the cancers and diseases caused by the virus by starting HPV vaccination today.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Why do they need HPV vaccine at such a young age?</td>
<td>HPV vaccination works best at the recommended ages of 11 or 12 years.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I have some concerns about the safety of the vaccine—I keep reading things online that says HPV vaccination isn’t safe. Do you really know if it’s safe?</td>
<td>I know there are stories in the media and online about vaccines, and I can see how that could concern you. However, I want you to know that HPV vaccine has been carefully studied for many years by medical and scientific experts. I believe HPV vaccine is very safe. Vaccines, like any medication, can cause side effects. With HPV vaccination this could include pain, swelling, and/or redness where the shot is given, or possibly headache. Sometimes kids faint when they get shots and they could be injured if they fall from fainting. We’ll protect your child by having them stay seated after the shot.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Could HPV vaccine cause my child to have problems with infertility?</td>
<td>There is no data available to suggest that getting HPV vaccine will have an effect on future fertility. However, women who develop cervical cancer could require treatment that would limit their ability to have children.</td>
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<tr>
<td>I’m just worried that my child will perceive this as a green light to have sex.</td>
<td>Numerous research studies have shown that getting the HPV vaccine does not make kids more likely to be sexually active or start having sex at a younger age.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How do you know if the vaccine works?</td>
<td>Ongoing studies are showing that HPV vaccination works very well and has decreased HPV infection, genital warts, and cervical precancers in young people in the years since it has been available.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Why do boys need HPV vaccine?</td>
<td>HPV infection can cause cancers of the penis, anus, and throat in men and it can also cause genital warts. HPV vaccine can help prevent the infection that lead to these diseases.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Would you get HPV vaccine for your kids?</td>
<td>Yes, I have given HPV vaccine to my child (or grandchild, etc) because I believe in the importance of this cancer-preventing vaccine. The American Academy of Pediatrics, the American Academy of Family Physicians, cancer centers, and the CDC, also agree that getting the HPV vaccine is very important for your child.</td>
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**HPV Vaccine is Cancer Prevention**
Help parents understand why HPV vaccine is needed at age 11 or 12. Let them know that like any other vaccine, they want their children protected long before exposure.

Emphasize your personal belief in the importance of HPV vaccine to help parents feel secure in their decision. Let them know you have given/will give it to the children in your life.

Welcome questions from parents.

Start conversations early and focus on cancer prevention.

Vaccine should be given well before sexual experimentation begins.

There is a better antibody response in preteens.

HPV vaccine is safe and not associated with increased sexual activity.

Declination is not final and the conversation can be revisited.
HPV Vaccine is Safe, Effective and Provides Lasting Protection

HPV Vaccine WORKS

- Studies have shown a decrease in prevalence of HPV types 6, 11, 16 and 18 (the types targeted by 4vHPV vaccine) from the pre-vaccine era (2003-2006) to the four year post-vaccine era (2007-2010) among 14-24 year olds

HPV Vaccine LASTS

- Studies suggest that vaccine protection is long-lasting
- No evidence of waning protection

HPV Vaccine is SAFE

- Benefits of HPV vaccination far outweigh any potential risks
- Safety studies findings for HPV vaccination similar to safety reviews of MCV4 and Tdap vaccines

Resources:
HPV Gardasil 9 Information Statement in Spanish
HPV Gardasil 9 Information Statement in English
CDC - Adolescent Vaccine Safety
CDC - HPV Press Release
Increase the Number of Patients who come into your Office & Leave Vaccinated

Tips for your Office

1. Align your office policy with the mission. **Immunize at every opportunity** (e.g., sports physicals, well visits and other visit types)
2. Consider using standing orders
3. Use EHR or other prompts for ordering and administering vaccine
4. Use a reminder/recall system (send postcards, place reminder phone calls, send text messages)
5. Recruit an office immunization champion
6. Pharmacists:
   - Consider calling for verbal authorization if written prescription is not available
   - Include HPV vaccine in back to school recommendations
HPV Vaccine Resources for your Office

Posters and Handouts:

CDC - Posters for Exam and Waiting Rooms
Handouts for Patients & Staff
HPV Vaccine - A Guide for Young Adults
HPV is a serious disease
Made possible by a grant from the National Association of County and City Health Officials for Improving HPV Vaccination in the Greater Prince William Area, Prince William Health District and community partners