

Human Papilloma Virus Vaccine

Indications:

- Start series at age 11, but okay to begin as early as age 9
- Can start until age 26 in females, MSM and immunocompromised
- Healthy males through age 21

Schedule:

- If less than 15 years old, give 2 doses:
 - 1 @ 0 months and 1 @ 6-12 months
- If over 15 years old give 3 doses:
 - 1 @ 0 months, 1 @ 1-2months, and 1 @ 6 months

Facts:

- 91 % of cervical cancer is due to HPV
- 89% in men and 92% in women of anal cancer is due to HPV
- 72% in men and 63% in women of oropharyngeal cancer is due to HPV
- Efficacy of the vaccine is 90% or higher in preventing cancers caused by HPV
 - Gardasil 9 is 97% effective in preventing high grade cervical, vaginal and vulvar disease
 - Gardasil 9 covers HPV types 6, 11, 16, 18, 31, 33, 45, 52, and 58

HPV Vaccination Patient/Family FAQs

- Why is this important at such a young age?
 - Giving the vaccine earlier improves the body's immune response to the virus. Waiting to start the series after age 15 means 1 additional shot
- Is my child really at risk?
 - YES. HPV is a very common virus that can cause cancer. Getting the vaccine earlier can prevent infection, no matter their age at exposure to the virus. All it takes is one exposure.
- Is it safe?
 - Yes. All vaccines can cause pain, swelling or redness, but this normally goes away in a couple of days. If your child is prone to fainting after shots, please let us know.
- How do you know it works?
 - Many studies have proven the vaccine to be effective. Rates of HPV pre-cancers have decreased due to vaccination.
- I'm worried my child will think that getting the vaccine makes it okay to have sex.
 - Studies have shown this is not true. Getting the vaccine does not lead patients to engage in sexual activity.

Patient resources:

1. <https://www.cdc.gov/hpv/parents/index.html>
2. <http://www.uptodate.com/contents/human-papillomavirus-hpv-vaccine-beyond-the-basics>