

CANCER PREVENTION

HUMAN PAPILLOMAVIRUS (HPV): HPV is a common virus that can cause cancers of the mouth, throat, anus and genital areas.

Did You Know?

100+ HPV types

can be low-risk causing genital warts or high-risk causing cancers.

33,000 cancers

are caused by HPV each year in the United States.

HPV types 16 and 18

have been identified as the leading causes of HPV cancers.

79 million

Americans are infected with HPV and another 14 million are added each year.

Percentage of Cancer Cases Caused by HPV

Specific cancers include:



Males		Females	
Cancer	Percentage	Cancer	Percentage
Anal	91%	Anal	91%
Throat & Mouth	72%	Throat & Mouth	72%
Penile	63%	Cervical	91%
		Vaginal	79%
		Vulva	69%

Do I really need HPV Vaccine?

HPV is spread person-to-person with skin to skin contact. Mostly spread by intimate contact with another person who is infected.

Is there a treatment for HPV infections?

No, there is no treatment. Most infections resolve without problems, but some infections can continue causing long-term, serious and sometimes fatal illnesses.

What is the best prevention against HPV?

Vaccination with the HPV vaccine is the best prevention against infection. Efficacy is close to 90% in preventing infection and precancerous lesions in women caused by HPV 16 and 18. The vaccines can only prevent infection of HPV types found in the vaccines.

Are vaccines currently available?

There are currently two vaccines for males and three vaccines for females. Vaccines are for individuals 9 through 26 years of age. Talk to your health care professional or medical provider to see if vaccination is right for you and your family.



When is vaccination recommended?

Vaccination is recommended for all children and adolescents 11 through 14 years of age. Catch up vaccination is recommended to begin as soon as 15 through 18 years of age.

Vaccination is recommended for adult females 19 through 26 years of age who were not vaccinated as a child. Adult males 19 through 21 years of age are recommended to receive the vaccine and adult males 22 through 26 years of age with certain health conditions or lifestyles are recommended to receive the vaccine. All three vaccines consist of a three dose series given over a period of six months.

