

HPV Starts at 9! Cancer Prevention

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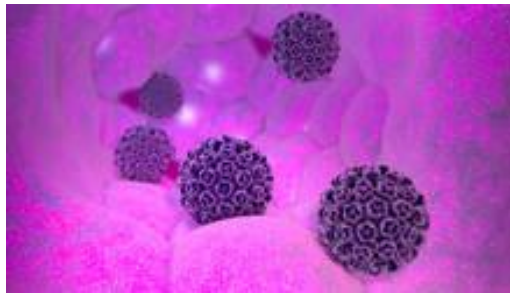


What is HPV?

HPV, or human papillomavirus, is a common virus that can cause cancers later in life. HPV is spread through intimate skin-to-skin contact. You can get HPV by having vaginal, anal, or oral sex with someone who has the virus, even if they don't have signs or symptoms.

Most HPV infections (9 out of 10) go away by themselves within 2 years. But sometimes, HPV infections will last longer and can cause some cancers. HPV infections can cause cancers of the:

- Cervix, vagina, and vulva
- Penis
- Anus
- Back of the throat (called oropharyngeal cancer), including the base of the tongue and tonsils



The Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) estimates that about 42 million people are infected with HPV in the United States, and about 13 million people become infected each year, including teens.

What is HPV Vaccine?

What is the HPV vaccine?

- HPV vaccines can help protect children and young adults from some HPV infections. These vaccines are used to prevent some types of cancer that can result from an HPV infection. They will not treat an HPV infection. And they will not protect against cancer if a person already has an HPV infection.
- Gardasil 9 is the only HPV vaccine available in the United States.
- Each vaccine requires a series of injections (shots) – either 2 or 3 depending on a person’s age. The injections are most often given in the muscle of the upper arm.
 - Research is still being done on giving just 1 dose of HPV vaccine.



[HPV Vaccines | Preventing Human Papillomavirus Infection | American Cancer Society](#)

Why is getting HPV Vaccine Important

- HPV vaccination is important because it prevents infections that can cause cancer. That is why we need to start the shot series as early as possible.
- Vaccines protect your child before they are exposed to an infection. That's why we give HPV vaccination earlier rather than later, to protect them long before they are ever exposed.

1
Offers more time
for completion of
the series by the
age of 13

2
Results in a strong
immune response to
the HPV vaccine

3
Increases the
likelihood of
vaccinating prior to
first HPV exposure

4
Decreases questions
about sexual activity
by parents and
guardians

5
Decreases requests
for only vaccines that
are "required" for
school

6
Decreases the
number of
administered
shots per visit

7
Increases
vaccinations and
therefore the number
of cancers prevented

8
Has been shown
by several systems
to increase
vaccination rates

9
Has been shown to be
highly acceptable to
systems, providers,
and parents

[ACS Updates HPV Vaccination Recommendations to Start at Age 9 | American Cancer Society](#)

Why Initiate HPV Vaccination at Age 9?

- Health Care Providers are encouraged to start offering the HPV vaccination series beginning at age 9 years of age. Starting HPV vaccination at age 9 could mean fewer shots per visit based on the CDC's recommended dosing schedule for adolescents.
- Children who are vaccinated earlier need only two shots instead of three.
- HPV vaccination is important because it prevents infections that can cause cancer. That is why we need to start the shot series earlier rather than later.
- Vaccines protect your child before they are exposed to an infection. That's why we give HPV vaccination earlier rather than later, to protect them long before they are ever exposed.
- Giving the vaccine to boys and girls between 9 and 12 years old can prevent more than 90% of HPV-related cancers when they get older.

DON'T WAIT



<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/vpd/hpv/hcp/recommendations.html#schedules>

Strategies to Improve HPV Vaccination

Certain Strategies May Help Improve HPV Vaccination



RECOMMEND

- Recommend the HPV vaccine for adolescent patients the same day and the same way you recommend all other vaccines.
- Deliver regularly occurring vaccine reminders.



KNOW YOUR RATES

- Know your practice's actual vaccination rates.
- Learn more about why some patients are behind on their vaccines.
- Facilitate solutions with staff on how to bring these patients in and get or keep immunization rates up.



IMPLEMENT SYSTEMS

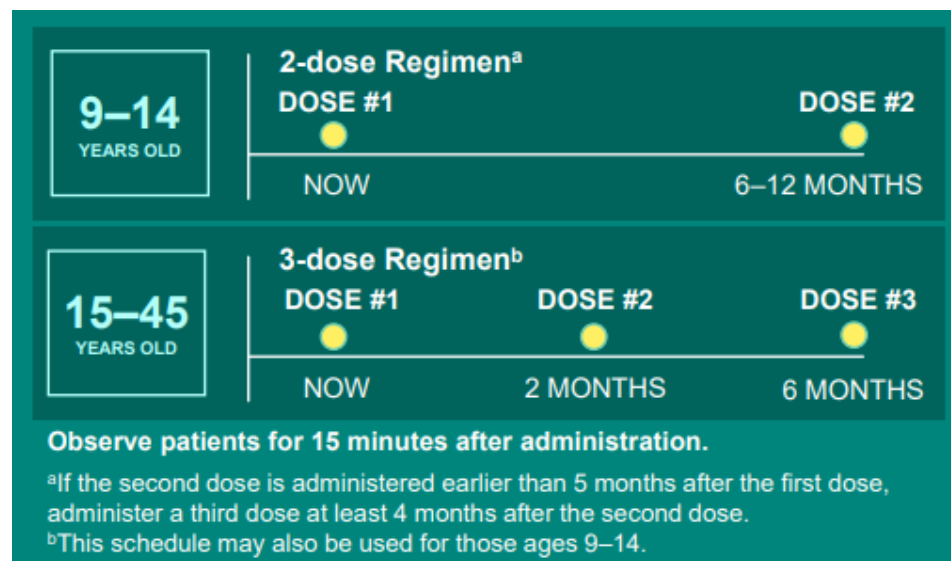
Don't miss opportunities to vaccinate:

- Have staff indicate if a patient is due for immunization.
- Incorporate standing orders into clinic procedures.

Dosing and Administration

Dosing Schedules

- Two doses of HPV vaccine are recommended for most persons starting the series before their 15th birthday.
- The second dose of HPV vaccine should be given 6 to 12 months after the first dose.
 - Adolescents who receive two doses less than 5 months apart will require a third dose of HPV vaccine.
- Three doses of HPV vaccine are recommended for teens and young adults who start the series at ages 15 through 26 years, and for immunocompromised persons.
- The recommended three-dose schedule is 0, 1–2 and 6 months.
- Three doses are recommended for immunocompromised persons (including those with HIV infection) aged 9 through 26 years.



<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/vpd/hpv/hcp/recommendations.html#schedules>

Vaccine Safety

Vaccine Safety

- HPV vaccines have been used since 2006. HPV vaccines went through extensive safety testing before becoming available. Hundreds of million doses of the HPV vaccine have been given worldwide.
- HPV vaccines are very safe. Scientific research shows the benefits of HPV vaccination far outweigh the potential risks. Like all medical interventions, vaccines can have some side effects.
- All vaccines used in the United States, including HPV vaccines, go through extensive safety testing before the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) licenses them. During clinical trials before the licensure, the 9-valent HPV vaccine Gardasil 9 was studied in more than 15,000 males and females and was found to be safe and effective.
- With more than 135 million doses of HPV vaccines distributed in the United States, there are robust data showing that HPV vaccines are safe.

Safety Monitoring

U.S. vaccine safety monitoring

- The United States monitors safety of all vaccines through several systems:
- [Vaccine Adverse Events Reporting System \(VAERS\)](#) is a spontaneous reporting system that serves as an early warning system to detect possible safety problems that may be related to vaccination. Anyone can submit a report to VAERS. However, it is generally not possible to find out from VAERS data if a vaccine caused the adverse event, and the reports often lack details and sometimes contain errors.
- [Vaccine Safety Datalink \(VSD\)](#) is a collaborative project between CDC and eight healthcare organizations that monitors the safety of vaccines and conducts rigorous vaccine safety assessments.
- [Clinical Immunization Safety Assessment Project \(CISA\)](#) conducts vaccine safety clinical research and assesses complex clinical adverse events following vaccination.

The logo for the Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS) features the letters "VAERS" in a bold, blue, sans-serif font. The letters are closely spaced and have a slight shadow effect.

Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System
www.vaers.hhs.gov

[HPV Vaccine Safety and Effectiveness Data | HPV | CDC](#)

Who Should NOT Get HPV Vaccine

Make sure the health care provider knows about any severe allergies. The following people should not get an HPV vaccine:

- Those with a severe allergy to yeast should not receive Gardasil 9.
- Anyone who has had a serious reaction to an earlier dose of HPV vaccine
- **Pregnant women** should not get any HPV vaccine at this time, even though they appear to be safe for both mother and the unborn baby. If a woman who is pregnant does get an HPV vaccine, it's not a reason to consider ending the pregnancy. Women who started a vaccine series before they learned they were pregnant should complete the series after the pregnancy.



[HPV Vaccines | Preventing Human Papillomavirus Infection | American Cancer Society](#)

Adverse Reactions

Adverse Reactions

- Side effects reported through CDC's Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS) are pain, redness, or swelling in the arm where the vaccine was given, dizziness, syncope (fainting), nausea, and headache.
- A variety of systemic adverse reactions have been reported by vaccine recipients, including nausea, dizziness, myalgia, and malaise. However, these symptoms occurred with equal frequency among both HPV vaccine and placebo recipients.
- Local reactions generally increased in frequency with increasing doses. However, reports of fever did not increase significantly with increasing doses.
- No serious adverse events have been associated with any HPV vaccine. Ongoing monitoring is conducted by CDC and the Food and Drug Administration.

Maine “Start at 9” Campaign to Prevent HPV Cancers

Evidence suggests that a provider's recommendation is among the most persuasive reasons parents choose to vaccinate their children. The latest research also suggests that starting the HPV vaccination series at age 9 can increase the percentage of your patients that are up to date by age 13.

Nearly half of Maine adolescents are not fully vaccinated against HPV and therefore unprotected against HPV and future HPV cancers. A growing body of evidence shows that starting the HPV vaccine series at age 9, rather than waiting until age 11, increases on-time vaccination and will, therefore save more lives.



[Maine "Start at 9" Campaign to Prevent HPV Cancers | MIP | Disease Surveillance | MeCDC | DHHS](#)

Maine “Start at 9” Campaign to Prevent HPV Cancers

Nationally, one in five vaccinating providers are already administering the HPV vaccine at ages 9 to 10 and half are willing to recommend it at age 9.

To date, the following organizations in Maine have endorsed starting the HPV vaccination series at age 9.



CITY OF BANGOR

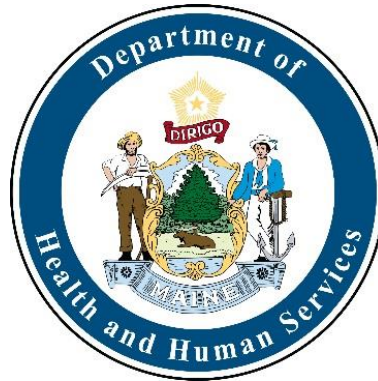
References

References:

- Recommended Child and Adolescent Immunization Schedule for ages 18 years or younger; 2024 U.S.. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/imz-schedules/downloads/child/0-18yrs-child-combined-schedule.pdf?CDC_AAref_Val=https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/schedules/downloads/child/0-18yrs-child-combined-schedule.pdf
- ACS updates HPV vaccination recommendations to start at age 9. American Cancer Society. July 8, 2020. Accessed February 22, 2023. [HPV Vaccines | Preventing Human Papillomavirus Infection | American Cancer Society](#)
- [HPV Vaccine Safety and Effectiveness Data | HPV | CDC](#)
- [HPV Vaccination Recommendations | CDC](#)
- [ACIP Recommendations: Human Papillomavirus \(HPV\) Vaccine | ACIP Recommendations | CDC](#)
- [About HPV | HPV | CDC](#)
- [What Is HPV \(Human Papillomavirus\)? | American Cancer Society](#)
- [HPV-Toolkit 2024](#)
- [Maine "Start at 9" Campaign to Prevent HPV Cancers | MIP | Disease Surveillance | MeCDC | DHHS](#)

Questions?

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