

Department of Health and Human Services Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention 286 Water Street 11 State House Station Augusta, Maine 04333-0011 Tel.: (207) 287-8016; Fax: (207) 287-9058 TTY Users: Dial 711 (Maine Relay)

February 8, 2016

Dear Maine Vaccine Providers,

With the introduction of the Gardasil 9[®] vaccine, the Gardasil 4[®] vaccine will no longer be available to order. The Gardasil 9[®] vaccine protects against five additional strains of HPV which provides 15% more protection for females and 4% more protection for males.

If you have any remaining doses of Gardasil 4® in your inventory, they should be used on your male population. Once you have used all of your Gardasil 4® you may switch to the Gardasil 9®. The Gardasil 4® and 9® are interchangeable, making this an easy transition. For your female population, please continue to use the Gardasil 9® for all remaining doses.

The Gardasil 9® is recommended to be given to children and teens, starting as early as age 9 up through age 18. A total of 3 doses should be given on a 0,1-2 and 6 month schedule.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at 207-287-3746 or 1-800-867-4775.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Jony Rilbich

Tonya Philbrick, BS Director, Maine Immunization Program.