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To: Maine Immunization Program Providers
From: Maine Immunization Program
Subject: Updated ACIP Recommendations for Gardasil (HPV) Vaccine
Date: August 30, 2019

The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) and the US Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) have updated their recommendations for Gardasil (HPV) vaccination. HPV is a common sexually transmitted infection, with HPV infection generally occurring soon after first sexual activity. Most HPV infections are transient and asymptomatic. Persistent infections with high-risk HPV types can lead to development of cervical, anal, penile, vaginal, vulvar, and oropharyngeal cancers, usually after several decades. Most new HPV infections occur in adolescents and young adults. Although most sexually active adults have been exposed to HPV, new infections can occur with a new sex partner.

The newest recommendations are as follows:

- Adolescents: The recommendations remain the same for this age group. ACIP recommends that adolescents be routinely vaccinated against HPV at age 11 or 12 years old.
- Young Adults: Catch-up vaccination for HPV is now recommended for all persons through age 26 years for both males and females.
- Adults: For adults aged 27 through 45 years, ACIP recommends shared clinical-decision making with the patients' healthcare Provider to determine if the vaccine may benefit them.

Providers may begin using this new guidance when evaluating patients within the office. Please remember that unless your office specifically receives 317-Adult Gardasil from the Immunization Program, you must use privately purchased Gardasil for any adults 19 and older who wished to be immunized. If you would like to know if your office receives 317-Adult vaccines, or are interested in the 317-Adult Program, please contact the Immunization Program at (207) 287-3746. Providers with access to 317-Adult vaccines are listed here:

<https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/mecdc/infectious-disease/immunization/active-317-adult-provider-sites.shtml>

Please note that the ImmPact Help Desk team is working to add the new recommendations into ImmPact and will not immediately forecast the new recommendations.

Thank you for all that you do for the people of Maine!