

# HPV Vaccine, Same Way, Same Day!

Recommend HPV vaccination in the *same way* and on the *same day* you recommend all other vaccines for adolescents, in accordance with the Adolescent Immunization Combo 2, guidelines.

## Guidance for Providers

*HPV Cancers are Preventable - Just screening won't protect your patients from most HPV cancers*

All available prophylactic HPV vaccines are made from virus-like particles. The vaccines do not contain any viral DNA and therefore are non-infectious and cannot cause actual disease or cancer. HPV vaccines produce a better immune response than an HPV infection.

All 11-12 year olds need two doses of the HPV vaccine to protect against infections that cause **six** types of cancer.

- 1) Cervical Cancer
- 2) Cervical Precancer
- 3) Oropharyngeal Cancer
- 4) Anal Cancer
- 5) Vulvar and Vaginal Cancer
- 6) Penile Cancer

**Simple Sample Script** (*Same Way, Same Day*): “Now that your son/daughter is 11, he/she is due for vaccinations today to help protect him/her from meningitis, HPV cancers, and whooping cough. Do you have any questions?”

## Guidance for Parents/Families

### *FAQ's for Parents and Patients*

- **Why does my child need the HPV Vaccine?**
- HPV vaccine is important because it prevents infections that can cause cancer. That's why we need to start the shot series today.
- **What diseases are caused by HPV?**
- Some HPV infections can cause cancer—like cancer of the cervix or in the back of the throat—but we can protect your child from these cancers in the future by getting the first HPV shot today.
- **How do you know the vaccine works?**
- Studies continue to prove HPV vaccination works extremely well, decreasing the number of infections and HPV pre-cancers in young people since it has been available
- **Is my child really at risk for HPV?**
- HPV is a very common infection in women and men that can cause cancer. Starting the vaccine series today will help protect your child from the cancers and diseases caused by HPV.
- **Why do they need HPV vaccine at such a young age?**
- Vaccines protect your child before they are exposed to a disease. That's why we give the HPV vaccine earlier rather than later, to protect them long before they are ever exposed.  
The vaccine can be given as early as age 9. If you wait until they're older, they may need three doses instead of two. Children who start the vaccine series on or after their 15th birthday need three shots given over 6 months.
- **I'm worried my child will think it's OK to have sex?**
- Studies tell us that getting HPV vaccine doesn't make kids more likely to start having sex. I made sure my child (or grandchild, etc.) got the HPV vaccine, and I recommend we give your child her first HPV shot today.

- **Why do boys need the HPV vaccine?**
- HPV vaccination can help prevent future infections that can lead to cancers of the penis, anus, and back of the throat in men.
- **Is the HPV vaccine safe?**
- Yes, HPV vaccination is very safe. Like any medication, vaccines can cause side effects, including pain, swelling, or redness where the shot was given. That's normal for HPV vaccine too and should go away in a day or two. Sometimes kids faint after they get shots and they could be injured if they fall from fainting. We'll have your child stay seated after the shot to help protect him/her.
- **Would you get HPV vaccine for your kids?**
- Yes, I gave HPV vaccine to my child (or grandchild, etc.) when he was 11, because I wanted to help protect him from cancer in the future.
- **Can HPV vaccine cause infertility in my child?**
- There is no evidence to suggest that getting HPV vaccine will have an effect on future fertility. However, women who develop an HPV precancer or cancer could require treatment that would limit their ability to have children.

#### Guidance for Workflow Design

- Consider offering 2 vaccines at a time, starting at either age 10 or 11 in order to complete the series by 11 or 12 (e.g. **Year 1:** Tdap/HPV #1, **Year 2:** Meningococcal/HPV #2). **Reminder, the Meningococcal vaccine should not be routinely administered until after the 11<sup>th</sup> birthday as stated in the HEDIS definition:** [https://ahpnetwork.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/Adol\\_Imm\\_Combo2\\_v6.pdf](https://ahpnetwork.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/Adol_Imm_Combo2_v6.pdf)
- Consider using parent/caregiver education resources to engage parents in value of immunizations <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/vis/vis-statements/hpv.pdf>
- Consider standing orders available in template in the EMR to improve efficiency and access to administration of vaccine
- Consider opening your calendar to schedule patient for follow up before leaving the office.
- Engage Pediatric QI team, as needed, to help utilize Arcadia gap lists, and/or utilize patient level reminders (such as the DMHM in Medent) in EMR
- If possible, run proactive automatic reports on a weekly or monthly basis
- Have a designated person responsible for running manual reports or retrieving automatic reports. Develop a detailed step-by-step process for identification, outreach, tracking and closing the loop.

#### Recommended resources:

- The AAP HPV Champion Toolkit: <https://www.aap.org/en-us/advocacy-and-policy/aap-health-initiatives/immunizations/HPV-Champion-Toolkit/Pages/HPV-Champion-Toolkit.aspx>
- With specific guidance provided in the middle of the first page: <https://www.aap.org/en-us/advocacy-and-policy/aap-health-initiatives/immunizations/HPV-Champion-Toolkit/Pages/Key-Points-for-Improving-HPV-Vaccination-Rates-and-Saving-Lives.aspx>