HPV-HIV Key Points

- 1. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates that 80 percent of all people who are sexually active will be infected with human papillomavirus (HPV) at least once in their lifetime. HPV infection can lead to cervical, vaginal, vulvar, penile, and anal cancers, and cancer of the back of the throat. Certain types of HPV can cause genital warts.
- 2. Current HPV statistics show that 79 million people in the U.S. are infected with HPV. About 14 million people are newly infected with HPV each year. Each year about 20,700 women and 14,100 men develop cancers caused by HPV.
- 3. Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommends routine HPV vaccination for all adolescents aged 11 to 12 years, but HPV vaccine may be given as young as 9 years of age. Catch-up vaccination is recommended through age 26. Adults age 27 through 45 may choose to get the HPV vaccine after talking with their healthcare provider. HPV vaccine is not recommended during pregnancy, but can be given after birth and while breastfeeding.
- 4. Men and women with weakened immune systems and those who are HIV-positive should get HPV vaccine through age 26, if they were not fully vaccinated when they were younger.
- 5. If the HPV vaccine series is started before the 15th birthday, the series can be completed with two doses. The second dose is given 6 to 12 months after the first dose. *HPV vaccine produces a better immune response in preteens than in older teens or adults.* If vaccination is initiated at age 15 or older, the three dose series must be given at 0, 1-2, and 6 months. The three dose series should be given to those who are immunocompromised or HIV-positive regardless of age.
- 6. The HPV vaccine provides strong protection against new HPV infections, but it does not treat established HPV infections or disease caused by HPV. With all vaccines, we vaccinate BEFORE exposure occurs. For those infected with one type of HPV, getting the HPV vaccine may prevent infection with other types, especially high-risk types that cause cancer.
- 7. HPV vaccination has not been associated with initiation of sexual activity or an increase in sexual risk behaviors.
- 8. There is no way to know which people who have HPV will develop cancer or other health problems. People with weak immune systems and people who are HPV-positive may be less able to fight off HPV, and are more likely to develop health problems from it.
- 9. Having an STI, like HPV, can increase a person's chances of getting HIV, and vice versa.
- 10. When compared with HIV-negative women, HIV-positive women are more likely to have persistent HPV infection and are five times more likely to develop cervical cancer. They are also more likely to develop another cancer.
- 11. An estimated 1.1 million people are living with HIV in the U.S. Of those, about 14 percent, or 1 in 7, did not know they had HIV. Overall, an American has a 1 in 99 chance of being diagnosed with HIV at some point in his or her life. In WA, lifetime risk of HIV diagnosis is 1 in 185.
- 12. Settings that provide STI or STD services should either administer the HPV vaccine to eligible patients who have not started or completed the vaccine series, or refer them to another facility equipped to provide the vaccine.

