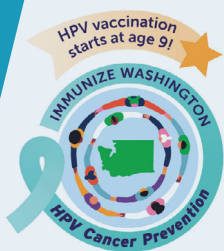


Prevent HPV Cancer Starting at Age 9



You are the key to
protecting your child
from HPV cancers
later in life.

Getting the HPV vaccine prevents cancer!

- HPV vaccine helps protect against six types of cancer.
- HPV vaccine protects people from over 90% of HPV cancers when given at the recommended ages.
- More than 75% of US parents have chosen to protect their children from HPV cancer with the HPV vaccine. Will you, too?

HPV vaccination between ages 9 and 12 will prevent more HPV cancers than vaccination at older ages. Why?

- Pre-teens produce more antibodies after HPV vaccination than older teens.
- It's important for children to be vaccinated BEFORE possible exposure to HPV infection.



Talk with your child's health care provider about the HPV vaccine and make an appointment today. Your child can get the HPV vaccine at the same time as other vaccines.

- In Washington, HPV vaccine is free for every child under age 19.
- Most health insurance plans cover it at no cost for those age 19 to 26.
- Need a doctor? Call the Help Me Grow Washington Hotline at 1-800-322-2588 or visit helpmegrowwa.org.

Recommended HPV Vaccination Schedule



On time: Age 9-12

2 Doses

- 6-12 months apart



Late: Age 13-14

2 Doses

- 6-12 months apart



Critical: Age 15-26

3 Doses

- 1st dose at visit one
- 2nd dose 1-2 months later
- 3rd dose 6 months after 1st

What is HPV?

Human papillomavirus (HPV) is a common virus that spreads easily and often when an infected person has no signs or symptoms. In fact, it is so common that most adults are infected at least once in their life. Most of the time, our bodies can clear HPV. When a person gets infected with the virus, there is no way to know who will develop cancer or other health problems. It can take years or decades before cancer from HPV infection develops.

How does HPV spread?

HPV is spread through intimate skin-to-skin contact. It can spread without having sex. Three out of every four adults will have at least one HPV infection before age 30.





How can you prevent HPV cancers?

With the HPV vaccine! The HPV vaccine protects against certain types of HPV infection, HPV cancers, and prevents most cases of genital warts. The HPV vaccine is recommended for all boys and girls between the ages of 9 and 12.

- It helps protect boys from cancers of the mouth and throat, penis, and anus later in life.
- It helps protect girls from cancers of the cervix, mouth and throat, anus, vagina, and vulva later in life.

Is the HPV vaccine safe and effective?

Yes, hundreds of millions of doses of HPV vaccine have been given around the world since 2006. Its safety is monitored in over 80 countries.

- Studies show that this vaccine provides almost 100% protection against the types of HPV it targets, and it protects kids from cancer caused by HPV for a lifetime.
- The HPV vaccine does not cause fertility issues, in fact, the opposite is true. HPV vaccine helps protect against cervical cancer and can help ensure a woman's ability to get pregnant and have healthy babies.

There are a lot of things you can't protect your child from, but HPV cancers are something that you can prevent. The HPV vaccine is cancer prevention.



Resources

- aap.org/hpv
- cancer.org/hpv
- doh.wa.gov/hpv
- doh.wa.gov/hpv-at-nine
- nfid.org/hpv



Information in this publication is current as of the date noted. For updates, visit doh.wa.gov/immunization.

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