

# Protect your child against viruses that can cause cancer.



HPV vaccine can be given starting at age 9. It protects boys and girls against cancers caused by the human papillomavirus.

**2 reasons for 2 doses at 9:** HPV vaccines are safe and develop better immunity when given at younger ages, producing the most infection-fighting cells, or antibodies, in preteens. It is highly effective in preventing infection from certain types of HPV when given before a person is exposed to the virus.

**When your child turns 9, ask your healthcare provider about protecting them from cancer with the HPV vaccine. [Learn more at www.doh.wa.gov/hpv](http://www.doh.wa.gov/hpv).**

*Only TWO doses of HPV vaccine are needed for most kids who start the series at ages 9 - 14. THREE doses are needed for those starting at 15 - 26.*

*At least 34,800 people in the U.S. get cancer caused by HPV each year.*

*The 2 most common cancers caused by HPV are cervical cancer in women and mouth/throat cancer in men.*

