

Human Papillomavirus (HPV) Vaccine

What is Human Papillomavirus (HPV)?

Human papillomavirus (HPV) is a common virus that spreads between people when they have sexual contact with another person.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, all sexually active people will get HPV at some time in their lives.

HPV can cause:

- cervical and vaginal cancer in women
- penile cancer in men
- anal cancer, throat cancer and genital warts in both men and women.

Why Get Vaccinated?

The HPV vaccine can prevent most of the cancers caused by HPV if it is given before exposure to the virus.

Who Should Get the HPV Vaccine?

The HPV vaccine can prevent most of the cancers caused by HPV if it is given before exposure to the virus. **The HPV vaccine is recommended for boys and girls at age 11 or 12.**

The vaccine is an injection (shot). It may be given as early as age 9 or as late as age 45. Most people older than age 26 will not benefit from the HPV vaccine.

Children

The vaccine is given in 2 doses. Most children receive the first dose from ages 9 to 15. The second shot is given 6 to 12 months after the first shot.

My Vaccination Schedule

First Dose

(Date)

Second Dose

(Date)

(6 to 12 months after the first dose)

Teens and adults

Anyone who gets the first dose of the HPV vaccine at age 15 or older will need 3 doses of the vaccine. The second dose is given 1 to 2 months after the first dose. The third dose is given 6 months after the first dose.

The HPV vaccine may be given at the same time as other vaccines.

Talk with your health care provider for more information.

Adapted from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

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