FAST FACTS – HPV VACCINATION

HPV Vaccines:i,ii,iii

- There are three vaccines which protect against HPV types 16 and 18, the cause of at least 70 percent of cervical cancer cases. Each vaccine is licensed by the U.S Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for use in the United States to help prevent HPV infection: Cervarix® and Gardasil®, and Gardasil®-9.

- Gardasil® and Gardasil ®-9 provide protection against HPV types 6 and 11, which are responsible for 90 percent of all genital warts cases.

- Gardasil ®-9 is the newest vaccine released in 2015. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) this vaccine prevents cervical cancer, vaginal and vulva cancer in females, and anal cancer in females and males. It also prevents female and male genital warts.

- While all the vaccines offer protection against the two most “high-risk” types of HPV, they do not prevent HPV entirely. Routine screening for cervical cancer, therefore, remains important.

Safety, Efficacy and Recommended Schedule:

- The HPV vaccine is licensed, safe, and effective for both males and females age nine through 26 years. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommend that all 11 or 12 year old boys and girls get the three-shot series.

- According to the CDC, in order for the HPV vaccine to work best, it is important for preteens to get all three doses long before they become sexually active, especially because the vaccine produces a higher antibody count to fight infection when given at younger ages. However, vaccination rates are still markedly low, hovering at 60 percent for females and 41 percent for males. The US Department of Health and Human Services goal is for 80 percent coverage among 13 to 15 year old girls by 2020.

- In 2011, the CDC extended its vaccine recommendations to males ages nine through 26, with the goal of reducing the overall prevalence of the HPV virus, and therefore, diminishing the incidence of HPV-related cancers. The same “high-risk” types of HPV viruses that cause cervical cancer in women are also linked to cancer of the penis, anus, mouth, and throat in men.

- Among persons not previously exposed to the types of HPV included in Gardasil, trials demonstrated nearly 100 percent vaccine efficacy in preventing cervical precancers, vulvar and vaginal precancers, and genital warts in women caused by targeted HPV types, as well as 90 percent efficacy in preventing genital warts and 75 percent vaccine efficacy in preventing anal precancers in men.

- Among women who had not been previously exposed to the types of HPV included in Cervarix clinical trials demonstrated a 93 percent vaccine efficacy in preventing cervical precancers due to HPV 16 or 18.
**HPV Vaccination Rates:**

- According to CDC’s National Immunization Survey-Teen 2014 Data (NIS-Teen 2014):
  - For girls who received at least one dose of HPV, vaccine coverage increased by three percentage points to 60 percent (compared to 57 percent in 2013).
  - Receipt of all three doses increased by three percentage points to 40 percent (compared to 37 percent in 2013).
  - HPV vaccination rates were lower among younger girls compared to older girls.
  - The receipt of three HPV doses among those who had adequate time to complete the series before the interview date was higher in Hispanics.
  - The receipt of two HPV doses was higher in black girls than white girls.
  - HPV coverage with each dose of vaccination was higher among girls living below the poverty level than those living above the poverty line.
  - For boys ages 13-17 who received at least one dose of HPV vaccine, coverage increased by eight percentage points to 42 percent (compared to 34 percent in 2013). Receipt of three doses increased by eight percent.
  - Of the boys who began the series and had adequate time to finish the series before the NIS-Teen interview date, 22 percent completed the series.
  - HPV vaccination coverage of each vaccine was higher in Hispanic boys than white boys. Vaccination was higher in black boys than among white boys for one dose.
This chart demonstrates the percent of cervical cancers worldwide caused by HPV type.


