

Michigan Immunization Initiative



Join us in our Campaign to Improve HPV Vaccination rates and Reduce HPV-Related Cancers!

In 2014, The Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH) expressed concern over the amount of women in Michigan with cervical cancer and emphasized the importance of regular cervical cancer screenings. Although cervical cancer is usually preventable, in 2010 there were 344 women diagnosed with cervical cancer and 121 deaths resulted from the disease in 2011 (MDCH).

The simplest way to eradicate cervical cancer in Michigan is via HPV (human papilloma virus) prevention, otherwise known as the HPV vaccine. The vaccine is completed after 3 doses and is strongly recommended for girls and boys ages 11-12 in order to ensure the most effective immunity. Despite the effectiveness in HPV prevention of the vaccine, rates in Michigan are alarmingly low. As of October 2013, only 30.1 percent of females and 7.5 percent of males ages 13-17 had completed all 3 doses of the vaccine (MDCH). In response to these low immunization rates, the Michigan Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics is taking the initiative to inform and educate primary care providers on the importance of HPV vaccination, as well as other necessary immunizations, and providing easy and effective steps for them to utilize in order to increase patient vaccines.

Michigan Recommended Immunization Schedules for Children and Adolescents

As part of our initiative to improve vaccination rates in Michigan, we strongly encourage primary care providers to follow and promote this recommended immunization schedule. This

schedule was introduced by the CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) and includes complete guidelines for children and adolescents ages birth to 18 years.

-Birth to 6 years:

<http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/parents/downloads/parent-ver-sch-0-6yrs.pdf>

-7 to 18 years:

<http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/who/teens/downloads/parent-version-schedule-7-18yrs.pdf>

HPV and the HPV Vaccine

What you need to know about HPV:

- **Human papilloma virus (HPV)** is a sexually transmitted infection that is prevalent throughout the United States.
- Nearly all sexually active men and women will get it at some point in their lives
- Currently, 79 million Americans are infected with HPV
- There are 14 million new infections each year in the US
- HPV infection is most common in teens and young adults in their early 20's
- There are different types of HPV, some of which have the potential to cause diseases such as cervical, anal, oropharynx, penial, vaginal, and vulva cancer and genital warts
- Cervical cancer is the most common cancer caused by HPV in women
- There were 11,000+ new cases and 4,000+ deaths caused by cervical cancer in 2011 in the US
- A person can be infected with HPV without having any symptoms
- HPV is most effectively prevented with the HPV vaccine

Getting Vaccinated

There are currently two HPV vaccines licensed by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and recommended by the CDC. **Cervarix** is available for females and **Gardasil** is available for both females and males. Both vaccines can prevent HPV that causes cancer and are given in 3 shots over a 6 month period. Although the vaccine can be given as early as 9 years and as late as 26

years for girls and 21 years for boys, it is recommended that the vaccine be given when adolescents are **11-12 years old** because:

- When given at a younger age, the vaccine is more effective at ensuring immunity against infection
- The HPV vaccine is the most effective when all three doses are given before a person comes in contact with the HPV virus
- It is necessary for adolescents to receive all 3 doses and have time to build an immune response well before they are sexually active, making 11-12 years an appropriate target age
- The HPV vaccine produces higher levels of neutralizing antibody than natural infection
- Both Cervarix and Gardasil have been tested on thousands of people and have shown no serious or dangerous side effects
- Getting the vaccine early will decrease a person's chances of developing health problems such as cervical cancer
- The HPV vaccine is an anti-cancer vaccine, and has already reduced the prevalence of vaccine-type HPV by 56% in girls ages 14-19 with a vaccination rate of just 30%
- Our current low vaccination rates will lead to 50,000 girls developing cervical cancer, however this could be prevented if we reach an **80% vaccination rate**
- The HPV vaccine is generally covered by most insurance plans. For those patients who do not have insurance, the HPV series is included in the federal Vaccines for Children (VFC) program. The program provides free vaccines for children who are 18 years of age or younger, and there are 44,000 hospital and clinic locations in the nation that offer VFC vaccines.

Helpful Tips for Providers

- Use school physical exams and other regular clinical visits to discuss the HPV vaccine with parents and patients. For example, if a patient is in your office for state required vaccinations, also inform and recommend to them that they get the HPV vaccine as well.
- Some parents are preoccupied with thoughts that the HPV vaccine will promote earlier sexual activity in their children; however, emphasizing that **the primary benefit of the vaccine is to prevent cancer** will ease some of their concerns.
- Always check a patient's vaccine history before they arrive to their appointment.
- Make sure to thoroughly explain to parents and patients why the HPV vaccine is recommended at 11-12 years of age-this is the best time to get the vaccine so that they have time to build an effective immune response to HPV well before they become sexually active.
- Keep in mind that a majority of parents and patients will respect your insight on the issue and consider any suggestions you provide to them.

- For more information and tips on how to increase vaccine rates in your office, visit these links below:
 - <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/who/teens/for-hcp-tipsheet-hpv.pdf>
 - <http://www.medscape.com/viewarticle/810030>
 - <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/who/teens/downloads/hcp-factsheet.pdf>
 - <http://www.cdc.gov/std/hpv/STDFact-HPV-vaccine-hcp.htm>
 - <http://aapnews.aappublications.org/content/early/2012/08/31/aapnews.20120831-1.full?rss=1>
 - <http://www.medscape.org/viewarticle/767661>

Educational Videos

NOTE: Due to the way YouTube operates, each video comes with links to other videos that contain similar or related content. Users should be aware that some of these videos are anti-vaccine and consist of false information with no scientific evidence designed to scare viewers away from vaccines. We are in no way affiliated with these conspiracies and hoaxes, and encourage pediatricians, parents, and patients to scan these videos with caution and use sensible judgment when confronted with them.

- **This will be the main video that is embedded on the page**
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ULbB0SdVe94&feature=youtu.be>
- <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mS-xSq2vbA>
- <http://www.mskcc.org/videos/gynecologic-surgeon-carol-brown-discusses-importance-hpv-vaccine>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J29GVielcho>
- <http://www.everydayhealth.com/sexual-health/hpv-vaccine-for-teenage-girls-prevents-genital-warts-later-in-life.aspx>
- <http://www.paaap.org/hpv/iep/hpv-youtube-videos>

Training Webinar

- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iKcND_4Xgi8&feature=youtu.be