If you take care of people at risk for, or living with, HIV this is important information for you about recommending the HPV vaccine to your patients.

A patient who receives a provider recommendation is 4-5 times more likely to receive the HPV vaccine.

Start the conversation about HPV.

Why should I vaccinate my high-risk patients up to age 26 years?

- Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) has recommended the HPV vaccine be given to all **HIV-positive males and females and MSM** in a three-dose series between the ages of 11 and 26.
- The current HPV vaccines are safe and highly immunogenic in HIV-positive individuals.
- HIV-positive and HPV-positive (co-infected) females who receive the HPV vaccine may prevent future infection with other types of HPV, especially high-risk types that cause cancer.

What effect does HPV have on HIV-positive individuals?

- Individuals with a weak immune system or HIV-positive, may be less able to fight off HPV infections, and more likely to develop health problems from it.
- Having HIV can increase the risk of getting HPV and vice versa.
- HIV-positive MSM have three times greater risk of HPV infection when compared to HIV-negative MSM.

Start the conversation. Strongly recommend the HPV vaccine.
What can I do?

Strongly recommend HPV vaccination for the following groups of people:

- **Women** aged 26 years or younger
- **Men** aged 21 years or younger
- **Men** aged 22 through 26 years, if one or more of the following applies:
  - Wants to be protected from HPV
  - Has a weakened immune system due to infection (including HIV), disease, or medications
  - Has sex with men (MSM)
- **Men or Women** who are now older than 26 years of age, and have not completed the HPV vaccine series he/she began at the age of 26 years or younger

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How do I start the conversation?

**✓ Use Presumptive Method**

"Because you are HIV-positive, you are at a higher risk for getting HPV, so I would like to vaccinate you today."

"You have an autoimmune disease, which means your body has a hard time fighting off infections. I would like to give you the HPV vaccine today, so you can be protected from the types of HPV that can cause cancer."

**Avoid Participatory Method**

- Don’t merely mention the HPV vaccine is available.
- Don’t present it as optional.
- Don’t ask whether they would like to get the HPV vaccine.

**Be strong & assume acceptance!**

What you say matters. How you say it matters more!

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Links to Conversation Starters

Use these resources to help you start the conversation about HPV vaccination with your immunocompromised and HIV-positive adult patients.

- **We-Are-1 Campaign**
  (WA-based coalition that promotes the health of LGBT and straight men who love men)
- **HPV Vaccination Toolkit**
  (Immunization for Women)
- **A Toolkit for Health Care Providers**
  (An Example from New Hampshire)
- **Washington You are the Key to HPV Cancer Prevention**
  (e-learning course with 1 CEU)
- **HPV Information for Public Health and Healthcare Providers**
  (WA State Department of Health)
- **HPV**
  (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention)

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Links to More Resources

- **HPV Vaccine is Cancer Prevention**
  www.doh.wa.gov/hpv

- **HIV/AIDS**
  www.doh.wa.gov/HIVAIDS

- **HPV VACs Partner Newsletter**
  (Vaccinate Adolescents against Cancers)
  provides key resources and the latest news and studies on HPV vaccination.

  **Subscribe** by emailing Tammy Wild at Tammy.Wild@cancer.org

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2017 HPV Vaccination Rates in Teens Aged 13-17 Years

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Completed Series Females</th>
<th>Completed Series Males</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>U.S.</strong></td>
<td>53.1%</td>
<td>44.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>WA</strong></td>
<td>56.8%</td>
<td>53.7%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Healthy People 2020 Target is 80%.**

**Source:** (National Immunization Survey-Teen)

For persons with disabilities, this document is available on request in other formats. To submit a request, please call 1-800-525-0127 (TDD/TTY 711).