

## WHAT WE ALL NEED TO KNOW ABOUT HPV

*HPV is very common and often goes unrecognized. If you are ever going to be sexually active, get the protection from the HPV vaccine now!*



## HPV YOU ARE THE KEY TO CANCER PREVENTION



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# DID YOU GET "IT" YET?



## HPV VACCINE IS CANCER PREVENTION

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What is HPV?

The human papillomavirus (HPV) is a common virus that can cause cancers and genital warts. There are more than 100 types of HPV.

How do you get it?

HPV is spread between sexual partners by skin-to-skin contact or during genital, anal or oral sex.

Who is at risk?

Anyone who is sexually active is at risk for HPV.

How common is HPV?

Most sexually active people will be infected at some point in their lives. HPV infection is most common during the late teens and early 20s.

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What are the symptoms of HPV?

Most people will never know they have HPV because HPV infection usually has no signs or symptoms.

Is there a cure?

There is no cure for the virus once you are infected. The body usually can clear HPV on its own, but, HPV infection can sometimes progress to different types of cancer or genital warts.

What type of cancer does HPV cause?

High-risk HPV has been linked to female cancers (cervix, vulva, and vagina) and male cancers (penis) and cancers that affect men and women (anus, head and neck).

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How do I protect myself?

The HPV vaccine can prevent HPV types responsible for most cervical cancers and genital warts. It is best to get the vaccine before becoming sexually active. Condoms do not provide full protection for HPV.

Who should get the HPV vaccine?

All girls and boys age 11-12. Or, females age 13-26 and males age 13-21 if they did not get the vaccine when younger. 3 doses (shots) of vaccine are recommended.

Where can I get the HPV vaccine?

The HPV vaccine is available at IHS and Tribal health facilities. Some school health centers and pharmacies have the vaccine too!

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HPV VACCINE IS CANCER PREVENTION