

What is HPV?

- Human papillomavirus (HPV) infections are the most common sexually transmitted infections
- Most HPV infections occur without symptoms and resolve without treatment
- If not immunized against HPV, most sexually active Canadians will have an asymptomatic HPV infection at some time
- HPV infections are the cause of almost all cases of cervical cancer, as well as other cancers in both men and women such as penile, anal, and oropharyngeal cancer

Who should get vaccinated against HPV?

- A majority of individuals receive their HPV vaccination through school based programs
- A common misconception is that only women should get vaccinated against HPV, however, men and other gender minorities should also receive the vaccine because HPV affects everyone



Which vaccine is right for me?

The Government of Canada outlined these recommendations for HPV vaccinations in the Canadian Immunization Guide.

Gender Differences in HPV Vaccination

Girls and Women

- HPV vaccine can be considered for children **less than 9 years of age who are at risk of exposure**
- **HPV2 or HPV9** is recommended for girls and women **9 to less than 27 years of age**
- HPV2 or HPV9 may be administered to women **27 years of age and older** at ongoing risk of HPV exposure

Boys and Men

- HPV vaccine can be considered for children **less than 9 years of age who are at risk of exposure**
- **HPV9** is recommended for boys and men **9 to less than 27 years of age** for prevention of anogenital warts, and penile & anal cancer
- **HPV9** may be administered to **men 27 years of age and older** at ongoing risk of HPV exposure

Recommendations for HPV vaccine Use

1

Vaccine Type

Choice of vaccine depends on goal of immunization

2

HPV2 or HPV9 Usage

HPV2 & HPV9 vaccines are used for the goal of preventing HPV type 16 and 18-related cancers

3

HPV9 Usage

HPV9 vaccine is used for the goal of preventing cancers related to HPV types 31, 33, 45, 52, 58, & protection against **genital warts**

Specific population considerations

- HPV vaccines are **not recommended** for use among **pregnant individuals**
 - Due to a lack of data, it is recommended to delay the HPV vaccination series until after the pregnancy has been completed
- HPV vaccinations can be administered to breastfeeding individuals
- A 3 dose HPV vaccine schedule is recommended for immunocompromised individuals
 - Immune response and vaccine efficacy may be reduced for immunosuppressed peoples
 - **For any further questions regarding HPV vaccinations, ask your healthcare provider**



Scan the QR code to view the recommended HPV immunization Schedule

Vaccination remains one of the best ways to safeguard yourself from preventable diseases, reduce the risk of serious illness and complications and prevent the spread of disease to others. Talk to your healthcare provider to learn more about how vaccination can support you and your families health and wellness.