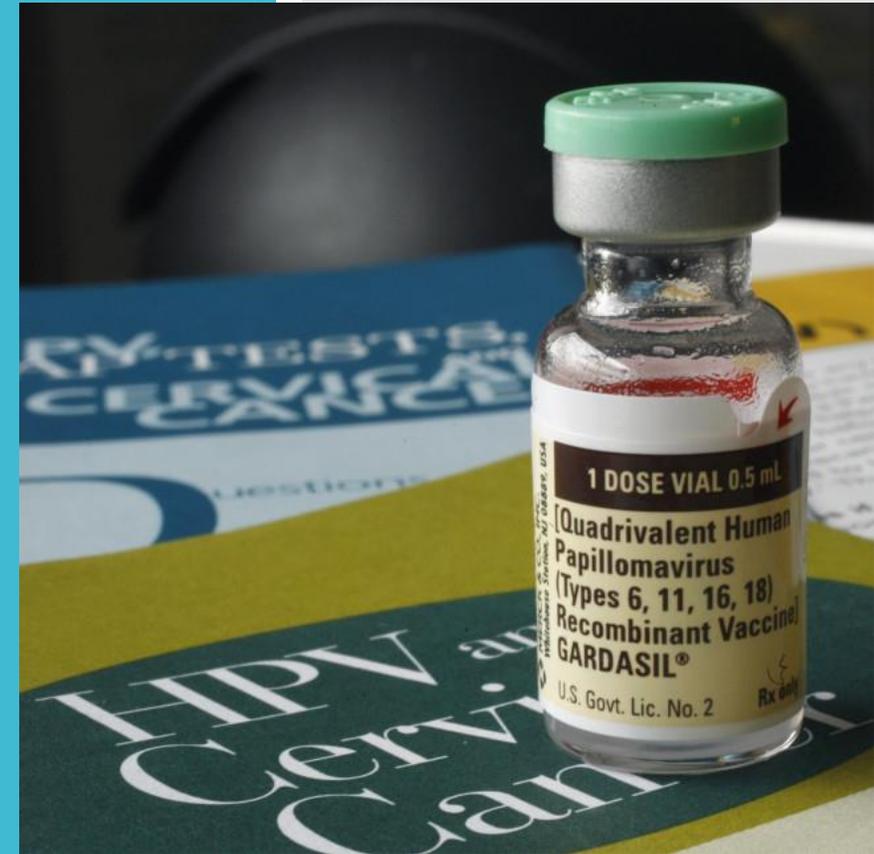


# Vaccinate to Prevent HPV Cancers

Vi Nguyen, MD

Pediatrician

Kaiser Permanente



Harry Cabluck/AP

## Overview

HPV disease and vaccination guidelines

HPV vaccination in San Diego

Championing HPV vaccination

# HPV INFECTION & CANCERS

- Human papilloma virus (HPV) is a common virus that causes six types of cancers in both men and women.
- About 80% of men and women get the virus at some point in their lives.
- About 14 million people, including teens, become infected with HPV each year.
- About 36,000 people are diagnosed with HPV cancer each year.
- HPV is thought to be responsible for more than 90% of anal and cervical cancers, about 70% of vaginal and vulvar cancers, and more than 60% of penile cancers.

# HPV INFECTION & CANCERS

- Most infected people do not know they have it but can still infect other through sexual contact.
- HPV infection has no treatment.
- Cervical cancer is the only type of HPV cancer with recommended screening for early detection. The other types of HPV cancers may not be detected until they cause health problems.
- The good news is there is a safe and effective vaccine that provides long-lasting protection against HPV cancers and can prevent more than 90% of HPV cancers.

# HPV VACCINATION IS CANCER PREVENTION

- Don't wait to vaccinate – the recommended age for HPV vaccine is boys and girls between ages 9 to 12 years.
- The HPV vaccine works best when given before age 13 years and will prevent more cancers than vaccination at older ages.
  - 2 doses before age 15 years
  - 3 doses after age 15 years
- U.S scientists and world health organizations closely monitor HPV vaccine safety and have found it to be safe and effective with long-lasting protection (no waning).

# HPV VACCINATION IN THE UNITED STATES

- The American Cancer Society believes it is possible to eliminate HPV cancers with an annual vaccination rate of 80% of 13-year-olds in the US by 2026.
- Uptake of HPV vaccination in the United States has been slow and lower than the national goal.
  - 66% of adolescents have received the first dose.
  - 49% of adolescents have completed the series.

# HPV VACCINATION IN SAN DIEGO

- About 3,000 Californian residents have HPV cancers.
- San Diego County in 2018 (CAIR):
  - 41 % of adolescents have received their first dose of HPV vaccine by age 13 years.
  - 22% of adolescents have completed HPV series by age 13 years.
- SD HPV vaccine rates already lag behind other adolescent vaccines (Tdap, Menveo), and since the start of the pandemic HPV vaccination rates have declined by about 21%.

# STRATEGIES TO INCREASE HPV VACCINATION

## Clinical level:

- Communicating HPV vaccination as cancer prevention for increased acceptance of vaccination.
- Starting the conversation and offering vaccine at age 9 years.
- Offering vaccines due at every visit – well and sick.
- Scheduling 2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> HPV dose in nurse clinic after administration of 1<sup>st</sup> dose.
- Review current adolescent vaccine rates by site, provider, and nurse.

# STRATEGIES TO INCREASE HPV VACCINATION

## Health System/Practice level:

- Establishing an HPV champion
- Summer weekend PE clinics to catch up on well child exams.
- Outreach (letters, emails, texts) for vaccines/well visits, including during telehealth and message encounters.
- Extended nurse clinic hours to evenings and weekends to increase vaccine access during after school and work.
- Getting more clinics VFC certified to increase access to vaccinations whether a child has insurance or not.

# STRATEGIES TO INCREASE HPV VACCINATION

## Education:

- Education and training modules for pediatric nurses and physicians.
- Engage with adult primary care and urgent care departments to raise awareness of HPV vaccine coverage, provide education and training, share best practices, and offer handoff to pediatrics nurse clinic for vaccination.
- MOC HPV Advocacy Project (Late September 2021)

# STRATEGIES TO INCREASE HPV VACCINATION

## Community level:

- Quarterly vaccine drives (or mobile clinics)
- Promotional flyers providing tips on cancer prevention
  - HPV vaccine
  - Sunscreen/Sun protection
  - Vaping
- Social Media Engagement

