



# The Human Papillomavirus (HPV) Vaccine

IHS Immunization Program

# Objectives

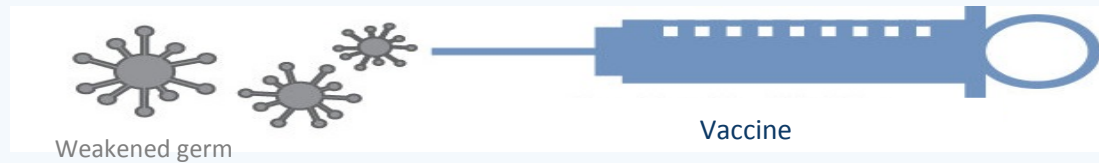
- Learn how a vaccine works
- Be familiar with the 4 vaccines that all adolescents (ages 9-18) need
- Learn what diseases HPV causes
- Understand the importance of vaccinating adolescent boys and girls against HPV
- Know what to say when a patient or parent has questions about the HPV vaccine

# Vaccine Basics

- Vaccines help your body make antibodies
  - Antibodies act as guards and protect you from getting sick in the future
- Vaccines contain parts of a germ or disease
  - You cannot get the disease from the vaccine
- Vaccines are proven to be safe and effective
- Like with any medication there may be side effects, but they are usually mild

# What is a vaccine and how does it work?

1. A weakened or killed form of the germ that cause the disease is injected into the body



2. The body creates antibodies to fight the germs



3. If the real germs ever attack the body, the antibodies return to destroy them



# What vaccines do adolescents need?

- Tdap
- Meningococcal
- HPV
- Flu

They can all be given at the same visit!



# Tdap Tetanus, Diphtheria, and Pertussis (whooping cough)

- **Tetanus**
  - A germ that enters the skin through a cut or puncture
  - Causes “lockjaw”
- **Diphtheria**
  - A germ spread by coughing or sneezing
  - Causes breathing problems
- **Pertussis (Whooping cough)**
  - A germ spread through coughing or sneezing
  - Causes severe coughing in children, adolescents, and adults



# Meningococcal Disease

- A germ spread by coughing, kissing, or sharing beverages
- There are several different types of meningococcal germs
- Commonly causes Meningitis
  - Meningitis causes swelling of the brain and spinal cord
- Can also cause a bloodstream infection



# Human Papillomavirus

- *A germ spread by intimate contact*
- *There are different types of HPV*
- *Can cause cancer and genital warts in men and women*





What are the four vaccines that adolescents need?

- A. HPV, Tdap, Flu, and Rotavirus vaccines
- B. HPV, Tdap, Meningococcal, and Flu vaccines
- C. HPV, Tdap, Flu, and Zoster vaccines

What are the three vaccines that adolescents need?

A. HPV, Tdap, Flu, and Rotavirus vaccines

B. HPV, Tdap, Meningococcal, and Flu vaccines

C. HPV, Tdap, Flu, and Zoster vaccines

The answer is B. Adolescents need the HPV, Tdap, Meningococcal, and Flu vaccines. These vaccines can be given at the same visit.



*What is HPV?*

*What does it cause?*

# HPV is the Human papillomavirus

- There are more than 120 types of HPV
  - 40 of those types can infect the genital area of males and females
- HPV can cause genital warts and cancer
- HPV is the most common sexually transmitted infection
- Nearly all sexually active people will be exposed to HPV at some point in their lives

# How is HPV spread?

- HPV is spread through any intimate contact
  - Deep kissing, skin to skin genital contact, oral sex
- Intercourse is not the only way HPV is spread
- HPV can be spread even if the person has no signs or symptoms of an HPV infection



# What does HPV cause?

- HPV can cause cancers in males and females
- HPV can cause cancers of the cervix, vulva, vagina, anus, penis, throat and mouth
- HPV also causes genital warts

# HPV & Cervical Cancer

- 90% of cervical cancer is caused by HPV
- Cervical cancer rates are **higher** among AI/AN women than other groups
- The HPV vaccine is the best way to prevent an HPV infection that can lead to cervical cancer

# Cervical Cancer Screening

- Routine cervical cancer screening is the best way to detect changes in your body that can lead to cervical cancer
- Cervical Cancer Screenings tests
  - A Pap Test
    - Checks for changes in cells that could become cervical cancer
  - An HPV test
    - Checks to see if you have HPV
  - A Pap test plus an HPV test is called co-testing
    - Patients need to talk to their healthcare provider to see if they should be co-tested

# What can HPV cause?

- A. Whooping cough
- B. Cancer and genital warts in men and women
- C. Tetanus
- D. Meningitis

# What can HPV cause?

- A. Whooping cough
- B. Genital warts and cancer in men and women
- C. Tetanus
- D. Meningitis

The answer is B. HPV can cause genital warts and cancer in men and women.





# *The HPV Vaccine*

# There are three different HPV vaccines

## Bivalent Cervarix®

The bivalent vaccine protects against 2 different HPV types. The bivalent vaccine is only recommended for use in girls. The bivalent vaccine protects against HPV related cervical cancer. The bivalent vaccine is not commonly used.

## 9-valent Gardasil®

The 9-valent vaccine protects against 9 different HPV types. The 9-valent vaccine is recommended for boys and girls. The 9-valent vaccine protects against HPV related cancers and genital warts.

## Quadrivalent Gardasil®

The quadrivalent vaccine protects against 4 different HPV types. The quadrivalent vaccine is recommended for use in boys and girls. The quadrivalent protects against HPV related cancers and genital warts.

# HPV vaccine

## Age recommendations

- **Routine Recommendation**
  - All girls and boys at 11 or 12 years of age
  - May be given starting at age 9
- **Catch Up Recommendation**
  - Females 19 through 26 years of age.
  - Males 19 through 21 years of age.
- **Adolescents should be vaccinated BEFORE they begin having sex**

# HPV vaccine High Risk Recommendation

## High Risk Males 21-26 years old

- High risk males include men who have sex with men or whose immune system is weakened because of HIV infection, other illness, or medications.



A stylized, colorful illustration of a landscape. In the foreground, there are rolling green hills. On the left, a purple and pink flower with a dark brown stem and small white swirls grows from a green hill. The background features layered, wavy hills in shades of blue and white, suggesting a sky or distant mountains. The overall style is clean and modern.

# *HPV Vaccine Schedule*

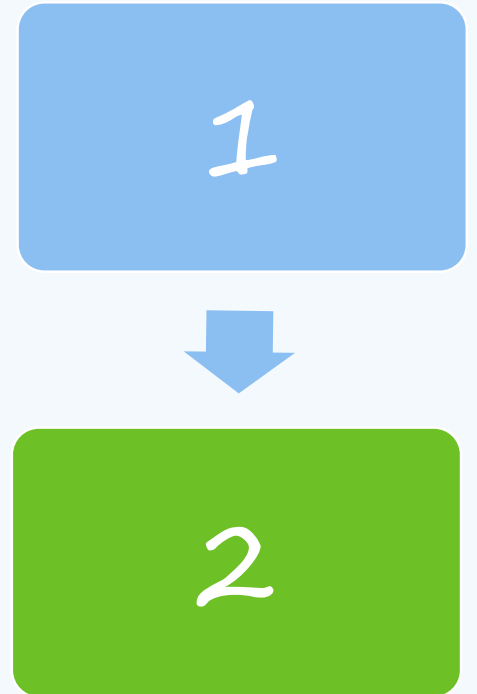


# HPV Vaccine Schedule

- *There are two schedules based on the age of the adolescent when they start the series.*

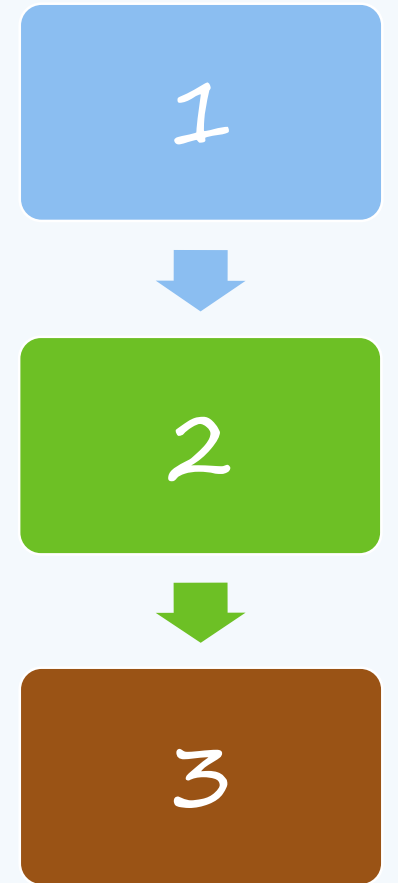
## 9-14 years of age

- If an adolescent begins the HPV vaccine series between the age of 9-14 years, they only need 2 doses
  - 1st Dose
  - 2nd Dose: 6-12 months after the first dose



# 15 years of age and older

- If an adolescent begins the HPV vaccine series at age 15 or older, they need 3 doses
  - 1st Dose
  - 2nd Dose: 1-2 months after the first dose
  - 3rd dose: 6 months after the first dose



# HPV Vaccination Schedule

- Schedule for 9-14 years of age: 2 Doses
- Schedule for 15 years of age and older: 3 Doses
- If someone waits longer than the recommended interval between doses, they do not need to start over

How many shots do you need to complete the HPV vaccine series?

A. 1

B. 2

C. 3

D. It depends



How many shots do you need to complete the HPV vaccine series?

A. 1

B. 2

C. 3

D. It depends

The answer is D. It depends on the age of the adolescent when they begin the series.

*What is the best way to prevent cervical cancer?*

- A. Receive all recommended HPV shots*
- B. Receive routine cervical cancer screenings*
- C. There isn't anything you can do to prevent cervical cancer*
- D. Both A and B*

# What is the best way to prevent cervical cancer?

- A. Receive all recommended HPV shots
- B. Receive routine cervical cancer screenings
- C. There isn't anything you can do to prevent cervical cancer
- D. Both A and B**

The answer is D, receiving all recommended doses of your HPV vaccine is the best way to prevent an HPV infection. Routine cervical cancer screening tests are the best way to detect changes in your body that can lead to cervical cancer.



# *Common questions about the HPV vaccine*

*What do I say???*

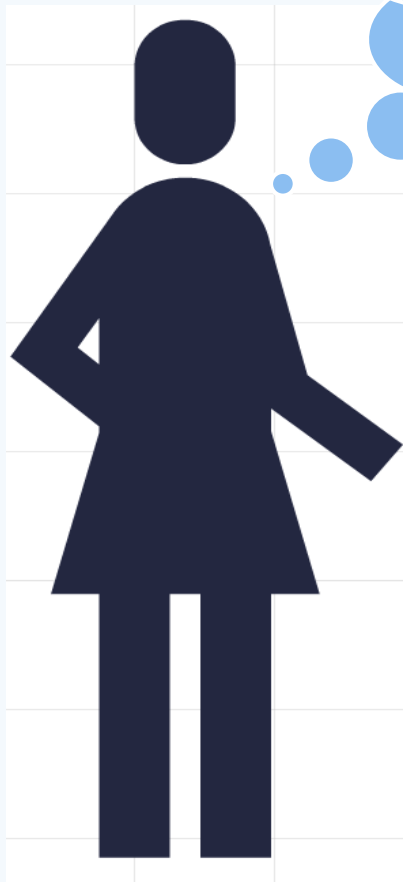


*Is the vaccine safe?*

## *CHR talking points:*

- ***YES!** The vaccine is safe*
- *Sometimes mild side effects may occur, like a sore arm, but they do not last long*

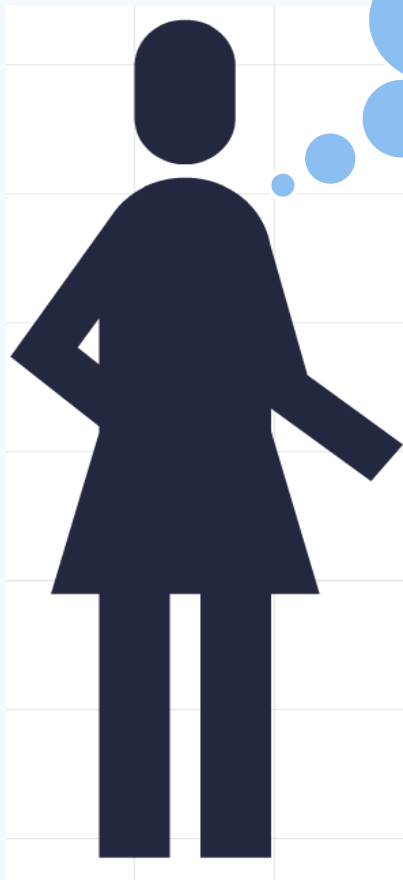




Does the vaccine  
work?

## CHR talking points:

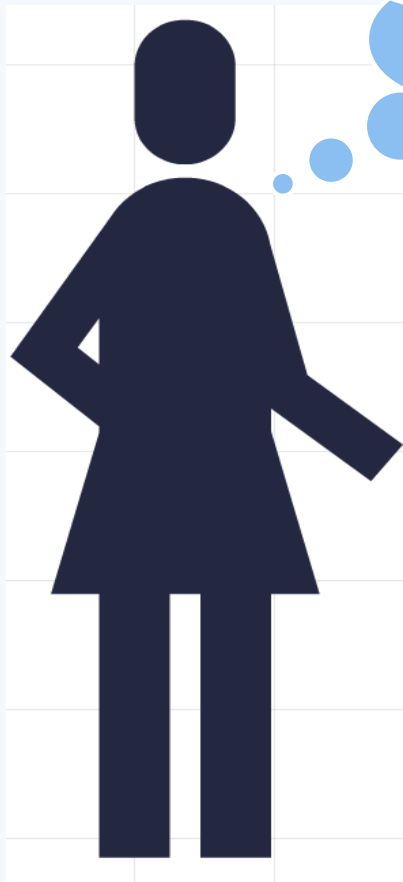
- **YES!** The vaccine works
- The HPV vaccine has been proven to prevent HPV related cancers and genital warts



*My child is too young to have sex, can I wait until they are older to vaccinate?*

## *CHR talking points:*

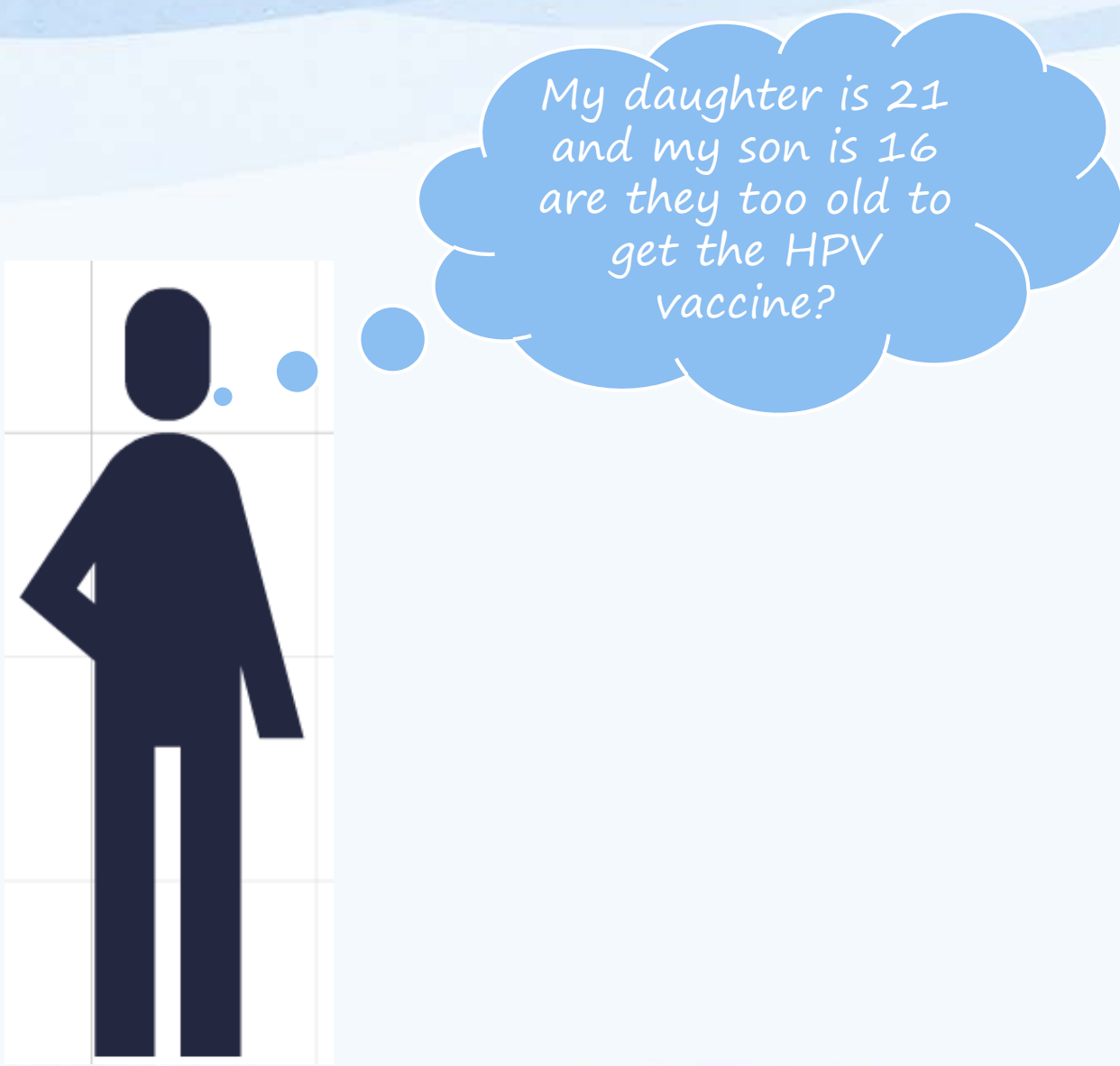
- You should vaccinate your child before they have the chance to be exposed to HPV*
- Just like when you put your seatbelt on before you drive, you need to get your HPV vaccine before you have sex*



I have a son, does  
he need the  
vaccine?

## CHR talking points:

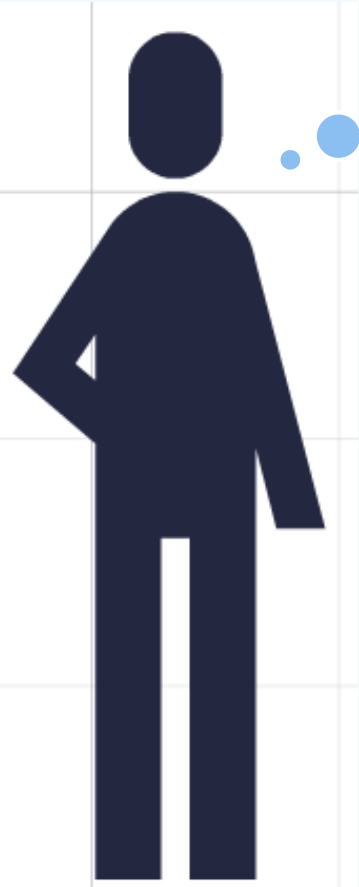
- **YES!** All boys should receive their HPV vaccine
- HPV can cause certain cancers and genital warts in males
- Likely to benefit girls by reducing the spread of HPV infection



My daughter is 21  
and my son is 16  
are they too old to  
get the HPV  
vaccine?

## CHR talking points:

- **NO!** They are not too old to get vaccinated
- Females can receive the vaccine until age 26
- Males can receive the vaccine until age 21
  - Certain groups of males may receive the vaccine up until age 26
  - Visit [CDC.GOV/HPV](https://www.cdc.gov/hpv) to learn more



Am I encouraging  
my child to have  
sex if they get this  
vaccine?

## CHR talking points:

- **NO!** Receiving the HPV vaccine does not make adolescents more likely to have sex



# Things to Remember!

*The HPV vaccine prevents cancer!*

*Adolescents should get their HPV, Tdap Meningococcal, and Flu vaccines*

*Adolescents may need two or three doses of the HPV vaccine depending on when they start the series*

## Preteens Need HPV Vaccine to Prevent Cancer

Protect the Circle of Life: "Let us put our minds together to see what life we can make for our children." - Sitting Bull, Lakota Sioux, 1877

### Why does my child need HPV vaccine?

Human papillomavirus (HPV) is a very common virus that can cause cancer. HPV vaccination is the best way to prevent your child from getting infected with the most common HPV types that cause cancer.

Cancer is a leading cause of death for American Indians. In women, HPV infections can cause cancers of the anus, cervix, vagina, vulva, and the mouth/throat area. HPV infection can cause cancers of the anus, penis, and the mouth/throat area in men. Also, both women and men can get genital warts from HPV infections. HPV vaccination provides protection from the infections that cause these health problems.

### Who should get HPV vaccine?

All boys and girls need HPV vaccination when they are 11 or 12 years old so they can be protected from HPV infections. Teens and young adults who didn't start or finish the HPV vaccine series also need HPV vaccine. Young women can get HPV vaccine until they are 27 years old and young men can get HPV vaccine until they are 22 years old. Young men who have sex with other men or who have weakened immune systems can also get HPV vaccine until they are 27.



For more information about HPV infection and HPV vaccine, visit [www.cdc.gov/HPV](http://www.cdc.gov/HPV)

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### Does the HPV vaccine work?

Yes, HPV vaccine works very well. Since HPV vaccination started, HPV infections have decreased in teen girls and boys. HPV vaccine is also preventing cervical precancers in young women who were vaccinated as preteens and teens.

### Is HPV vaccination safe?

Yes, HPV vaccination has been studied very carefully and no serious safety concerns have been linked to HPV vaccination. HPV vaccine, like all other vaccines, has been continually monitored to be sure it is safe and works well. Preteens and teens may experience mild side effects such as redness and soreness in the area of the arm where the shot was given. The benefits of HPV vaccination far outweigh any possible risk of side effects.

Some preteens and teens may faint after getting a shot or any other medical procedure. Sitting or lying down for about 15 minutes after getting shots can help prevent injuries that could happen if your child were to fall while fainting.

Serious side effects from the HPV vaccine are rare. Children with severe allergies to yeast or latex shouldn't get certain HPV vaccines. Be sure to tell the doctor or nurse if your child has any severe allergies.

### How can I get help paying for HPV vaccine?

American Indian/Alaska Native children younger than 19 years of age can get shots for free through the Vaccines for Children (VFC) Program. All DHS, tribal and urban Indian health clinics offer shots through the VEC program. So do many private doctors. Check with your healthcare provider or your local clinic.

**If there were a vaccine against cancer, wouldn't you get it for your kids?**

**HPV vaccine is cancer prevention. Talk to the doctor about vaccinating your 11-12 year old sons and daughters against HPV.**

[www.cdc.gov/vaccines/teens](http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/teens)

**YOU ARE THE KEY TO HPV CANCER PREVENTION**

CDC HPV Posters

<http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/who/teens/products/downloads/print-materials/p-AI-girl1-color.pdf>

**You can't protect them from everything, but you can protect them from HPV cancers.**

**Talk to your doctor today about protecting your American Indian preteen sons and daughters from cancer later in life with the HPV vaccine.**

**American Indian Cancer Foundation**  
[www.aicaf.org](http://www.aicaf.org)

**American Indian Cancer Foundation**

American Indian Cancer Foundation HPV posters

<http://www.americanindiancancer.org/hpv>

AI/AN focused HPV vaccination Fact Sheet

<http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/who/teens/products/downloads/print-materials/f-AI-hpv-vaccines-color.pdf>

# Resource List

- IHS Immunization Program HPV Toolkit:  
[https://www.ihs.gov/epi/index.cfm?module=epi\\_vaccine\\_resources-hpv](https://www.ihs.gov/epi/index.cfm?module=epi_vaccine_resources-hpv)
- CDC HPV website: [www.cdc.gov/hpv](http://www.cdc.gov/hpv)
- CDC infographics:  
<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/partners/teens/web.html>
- Immunization Action Coalition – HPV Handouts:  
<http://www.immunize.org/handouts/hpv-vaccines.asp>

# Congratulations!

You have completed the HPV Vaccine training for Community Health Representatives presented by the IHS Immunization Program

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_



# Thank you!

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