**HPV VACCINE:** **Long-Lasting Cancer Protection**

**HPV vaccination prevents over 90%of cancers caused by HPV.**

* HPV stands for **human papillomavirus**.
* It can be passed with no signs or symptoms.
* HPV is so common that **nearly everyone gets it at some point**.
* It dramatically **increases the risk of serious cancer**, in both men and women.[[1]](#endnote-1)

## In Massachusetts, the HPV vaccination rate is just 66%.

* 67% of **girls** completed their HPV vaccination series in 2017.
* 64% of **boys** completed their HPV vaccination series in 2017.

**In Massachusetts, the most common cancers are caused by HPV**.

* Cervical cancer occurred in 168 women per year.
* Throat cancer occurred in 292 people per year.

**The HPV vaccine offers future cancer protection for boys and girls.**

## Preventable Cancers Caused by HPV:

#### THROAT

* **CERVICAL**

##### VAGINAL

* VULVAR
* PENILE
* ANAL **(***\*Includes anal and rectal squamous cell carcinomas)*

**Earlier Vaccination is Better.**

* **Two doses** of HPV vaccine are recommended for **girls and boys ages 11-12.** However, the two- dose series can be **started as early as age 9**.[[2]](#endnote-2)
* **Teens and young adults (15-26)** can still receive vaccination, but will require **three doses**.[[3]](#endnote-3)
* *Consult your healthcare provider for more information.*

To learn more about the HPV vaccine and other immunization services in visit [www.mass.gov/dph/hpvvax](http://www.mass.gov/dph/hpvvax).

1. CDC. “6 Reasons to get HPV Vaccine for Your Child.” Available at https://www.cdc.gov/hpv/infographics/vacc-six-reasons.html. Accessed 5-21-2018. [↑](#endnote-ref-1)
2. CDC. “A New Schedule for HPV Vaccines.” Available at https://www.cdc.gov/hpv/hcp/2-dose/clinician-faq.html. Accessed 6-29-2018 [↑](#endnote-ref-2)
3. CDC. “Human Papillomavirus (HPV). Questions and Answers.” Available at https://www.cdc.gov/hpv/parents/questions-answers.html. Accessed 5-21-2018.

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