

Things to know about HPV

✓ Why does my child need HPV vaccine?

The HPV vaccine provides protection from most of the cancers and genital warts caused by human papillomavirus (HPV) infection. HPV is a very common virus that spreads between people when they have skin-to-skin contact during sexual activity. It is possible to have an HPV infection without knowing it and unknowingly pass it to another person.

✓ When should my child be vaccinated?

The HPV vaccine is recommended for preteen boys and girls beginning at 11 or 12 years of age so they are protected before being exposed to the virus. The HPV vaccine is given in a series of three shots over six months. It is important that your child gets all three shots for full protection.

✓ What else should I know about HPV vaccine?

Two vaccines – Cervarix and Gardasil – are available to prevent the most common types of HPV related cancers. Gardasil also prevents genital warts in both males and females. Only Gardasil has been tested and licensed for use in males.

Studies showed no serious safety concerns, and that HPV vaccines are safe. Common, mild adverse events include pain in the arm where the shot was given, fever, dizziness and nausea.

✓ How can I get help paying for these vaccines?

The Vaccines for Children (VFC) program provides vaccines for children 18 years of age and younger, who are not insured or under-insured, Medicaid eligible, American Indian or Alaska Native.

✓ Where can I learn more?

For more information about HPV vaccines and the other vaccines for preteens and teens, talk to your child's healthcare provider, local health department or pharmacist. More information is also available at www.immunize-utah.org or call 1-800-275-0659.

BROUGHT TO YOU BY

UTAH'S **PUBLIC HEALTH**
DEPARTMENTS

