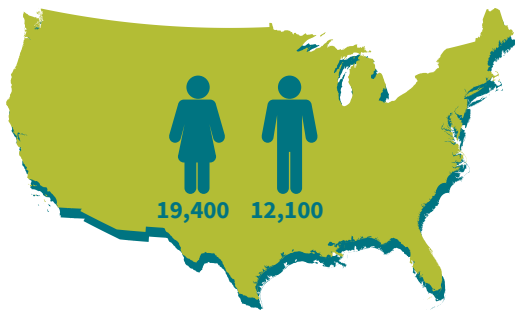


# Take a shot at cancer!

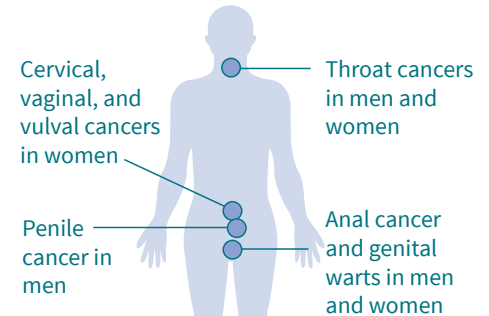
Get your child the HPV vaccine to help prevent HPV cancers.

## HPV is a serious problem.

The virus can cause some cancers and genital warts. HPV vaccination protects against this virus and the diseases it can cause.



**31,500 men and women** get HPV cancers in the United States each year. **Don't let your child be one of them.**



**HPV VACCINATION PROTECTS** against the types of HPV that cause most of these diseases.



### HPV IS VERY COMMON.

About **four out of five people** will get HPV at some point in their lives.

The virus is so common that it will infect most people at some point in their lives. Most infected people do not know it. **The best way to prevent HPV infection is to get vaccinated.**

Most HPV infections go away on their own without lasting health problems. However, there is no way to know which infections will turn into cancer. **That is why it is important that all children get vaccinated against HPV.**

### THE HPV VACCINE IS CANCER PREVENTION.

The HPV vaccine is over **97% effective at preventing infection** with the types of HPV that cause most HPV cancers when given before your child is exposed to the virus. Having your child protected also protects others from getting the virus.



# When does my child need the HPV vaccine?

THE AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY RECOMMENDS THE HPV VACCINE FOR BOYS AND GIRLS AGES 11 AND 12.



The vaccine can be started as early as age 9, and **should be completed by your child's 13th birthday**. The vaccine is given in **two shots**, with 6 to 12 months between shots.\* **HPV vaccination works best at ages 11 and 12**, before HPV exposure. The body develops better protection against HPV at this age than in the late teens and early 20s.

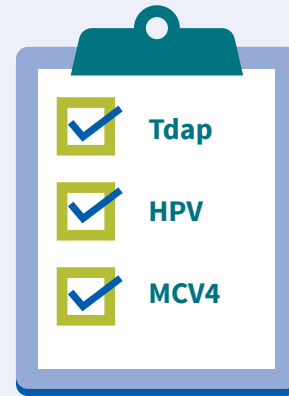


\* 3 shots of the HPV vaccine are needed for children who started the vaccine at age 15 or older, up to age 26 for women and age 21 for men, and those who have weak immune systems.

The HPV vaccine is one of three vaccines that all children need at this age.

The other vaccines are:

- Tdap (tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis)
- MCV4 (meningitis)



## THE HPV VACCINE IS SAFE.

Like other vaccines, most side effects are mild. They can include fever, headache, and pain and redness in the arm where the shot was given.

## What else should I know?

Most health insurance covers the cost of the HPV vaccine. Ask your insurance company to make sure.

The HPV vaccine is part of the Vaccines for Children (VFC) program. This program covers the cost of the HPV vaccine. It also covers the cost of other vaccines for free up to age 19 for families without insurance or without enough insurance.

Please visit [www.cancer.org/HPV](http://www.cancer.org/HPV) to get more information about the HPV vaccine.

## Talk to your child's doctor today about scheduling appointments.

1st dose:

Next dose:

**Start the HPV vaccination series today,  
and help protect your child against cancer!**

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