HPV is a very common virus that can lead to:

- Cancers of the mouth and throat
- Cancer of other sex organs
- Genital warts
- Cancer of the cervix (women only)

The HPV vaccine can prevent these!

Do I really need HPV vaccine? **Yes!**

Your doctor says you should get the HPV vaccine because it may prevent some types of cancer and genital warts.

Do I need it if I don’t have sex yet? **Yes!**

- You can get HPV just by skin-to-skin contact.
- You don’t have to have sex to catch HPV, but sex increases your risk.
- People can get and spread HPV without knowing it.

Why do I need 3 shots?

- You need 3 shots to be fully protected.
- Get all 3 before you catch the virus.

Why get the vaccine at age 11-12 years?

- The vaccine works even better in pre-teens than in teens.
- Older teens and young adults should get 3 HPV vaccines, too.

Is HPV vaccine safe? **Yes!**

- Millions of doses of HPV have been given.
- You may get a sore arm.
- A few people faint, so sit for 15 minutes after getting the vaccine.

When should I get the HPV vaccine?

Have your doctor’s office staff fill in this chart

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vaccine</th>
<th>Recommended</th>
<th>When</th>
<th>Place (e.g. clinic)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>#1</td>
<td>Best at ages 11-12 but it can be given to those 9-26 years old</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#2</td>
<td>1-2 months after vaccine #1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#3</td>
<td>At least 6 months after #1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For more info on vaccines for teens, see [http://www2.aap.org/immunization/families/AdolescentIZ.html](http://www2.aap.org/immunization/families/AdolescentIZ.html)