## Preventing cancer with the HPV vaccine

### **HPV** causes six types of cancer.

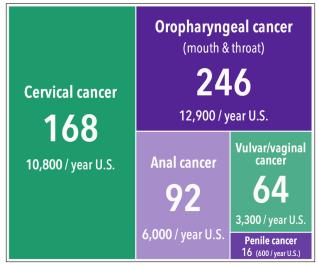
Almost 600 Wisconsinites are diagnosed with HPV-attributable cancers each year.

That's a dozen new cancer cases in Wisconsin every week.

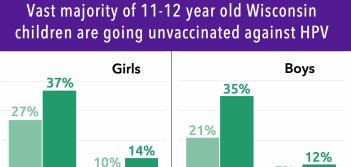
Across the United States, HPV caused 32,500 new cancer diagnoses in 2017.

The HPV vaccine can **prevent** these cancers.

HPV-caused cancers in Wisconsin per year



Annual averages from 2011-2015

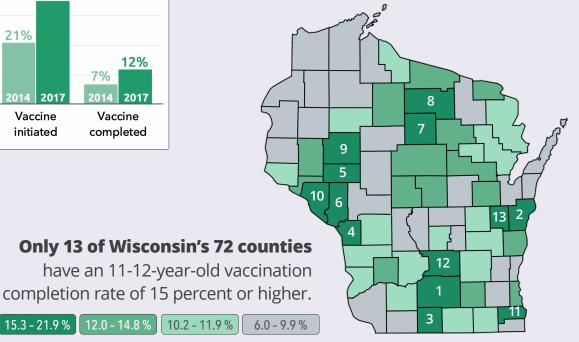


Vaccine

completed

12% 7% 2014 2017 2017 Vaccine Vaccine initiated completed

Though Wisconsin's HPV vaccination rates are slowly improving, we are falling dramatically short of the state's goal of 80% vaccination completion by 2020.





2014 2017

Vaccine

initiated

### Recommendations

The CDC recommends girls and boys be vaccinated for HPV at **ages 11 or 12** to protect against cancers caused by the virus.

If initiated at age 11 or 12, **two vaccine doses** are recommended, 6-12 months apart.

If initiated at age 15 or older, **three vaccine doses** are recommended.

# Why it's so important

The HPV vaccine is **cancer prevention**.

Although cervical cancer is the most well-known link to HPV, the virus also causes approximately **20,000 non-cervical cancers every year** in the U.S., including throat, anal, vaginal, and penile cancers.

Of the HPV-attributable cancers, **only cervical cancer is routinely screened for**. Therefore, preventing infections that can lead to other cancers is a priority.

### 7 things you can do to help prevent HPV cancers

- 1 Avoid missed opportunities by strongly recommending the HPV vaccine to parents of 11-12-year olds on the same day and in the same way that you recommend Tdap and meningococcal, since research shows a strong doctor's recommendation is the #1 reason parents opt to vaccinate.
- 2 Talk about the HPV vaccination in terms of **cancer prevention**, educating all clinic staff to frame the vaccine this way.
- Track and measure HPV vaccination rates among your patients, with a goal of 80 percent vaccinated by age 13.
- Develop and follow a protocol to check immunization status at **every patient visit.**
- 5 Implement a vaccination reminder system.
- 6 Engage with public health departments, schools, colleges, pharmacies, policymakers, and other partners to **identify innovative ways to collaboratively boost vaccination rates.**
- 7 Support policies that increase access to the HPV vaccine and educate families about the importance of being vaccinated.



#### Sources

"How Many Cancers Are Linked with HPV Each Year?" - www.cdc.gov/cancer/hpv/statistics/cases.htm Wisconsin Cancer Reporting System - www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/wcrs Wisconsin Immunization Registry - www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/immunization/wir.htm

"HPV Vaccine Information for Clinicians" - www.cdc.gov/hpv/hcp/need-to-know.pdf

Additional and more-detailed statewide and county data can be found at www.wicancer.org.