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.

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.


The HPV vaccine can prevent these cancers.

What can you do? See reverse for recommendations

Also visit www.wicancer.org for additional statewide and county data
## 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.

3. Track and measure HPV vaccination rates among your patients, with **a goal of 80 percent vaccinated by age 13**.

4. 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.

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**Sources:**
- 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.