

Fast Facts: HPV vaccine

What is HPV?

HPV or Human Papillomavirus is a common virus that can lead to:

- Cancers of the back of the throat, cervix (the opening to the uterus), penis, vagina, vulva, or anus
- Genital warts

The HPV vaccine, like Gardasil 9, protects you from most cancers caused by HPV. Its important to get these shots as early as you can for the best protection.

Is the shot safe?



Millions of HPV shots have been given without any problems. They may briefly feel faint and their arm may be sore afterwards so they should sit for 15 minutes after the shot.

Can they get it now even if they are older?



The HPV shot is approved for people aged 9 through 26.

- Some people from 27-45 who never got the shot can get the vaccine after speaking with their doctor.
- It works best if given before 13, but still works for teens and young adults.

Will it take more than one shot?



For full protection, they need multiple shots.

- Younger than 15: 2 shots.
- Older than 15: 3 shots.

Age at first shot	2nd Shot	3rd Shot
9 to 14 years old	6-12 months after first shot	Not needed
15 and older	1-2 months after first shot	4 months after 2 shot

Date of 1st Shot: _____ 2nd: _____ 3rd: _____



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