

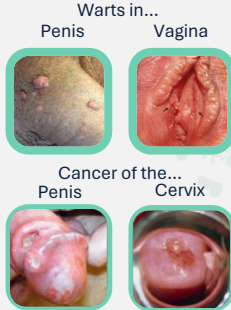
HUMAN PAPILLOMAVIRUS (HPV)

The virus that can cause cancers in women & men.

Human papillomavirus (HPV) is the most common sexually transmitted infection (STI) that is spread through vaginal, anal, or oral sex, or by intimate skin to skin contact.¹

SYMPTOMS OF HPV INFECTION¹

Most of the time, you won't feel any symptoms. Some people may have lesions, including in the genital area (genital warts).



“ IT IS ESTIMATED THAT ALMOST ALL SEXUALLY ACTIVE PEOPLE WILL BE INFECTED WITH HPV AT SOME POINT IN THEIR LIVES.¹ ”

- World Health Organization

HPV LINK TO CANCER^{1,2}

Persistent infection with high-risk HPV can cause abnormal cells to develop, which later become cancer.

On females¹:

Persistent HPV infection of the cervix causes 95% of **cervical cancers**. It can also develop to cancer of the cervix, vagina, anus, or back of the throat.

On males²:

Men can develop cancer of the penis, anus, or back of the throat.

CERVICAL CANCER IN THE PHILIPPINES^{2,7,8}

15-44 Cervical cancer is the second most common cancer afflicting Filipino women between ages 15 and 44

7,897
New cases each year

4,052
Deaths each year

12
Pinays die each day

SCREENING FOR CERVICAL CANCER³

Doctors may recommend the following screening tests for cervical cancer:

- Pap smear
- HPV DNA test
- Visual inspection with acetic acid (VIA)

DISEASES CAUSED BY HPV CAN BE PREVENTED BY^{1,9}

- Eating healthy and nutritious food to strengthen immune system
- Regular consultation with doctor for *pap smear*, *visual inspection using acetic acid (VIA)* or *HPV DNA test*
- Avoiding smoking and drinking liquor
- Daily exercise
- Vaccine against HPV

FACTS ON HPV VACCINES

THEY ARE GENERALLY WELL-TOLERATED AND EFFECTIVE⁴

HPV vaccines are generally well-tolerated and effective. They have been thoroughly tested and approved by health experts worldwide.

THEY PREVENT HPV-RELATED INFECTIONS AND CANCERS⁵

HPV vaccines can prevent HPV-related infections and cancers (genital, anal, oral).

THEY CAN BE GIVEN ON MALES AND FEMALES⁴

HPV vaccines can be given on females (9-45 years old) and males (9-26 years old) to protect them from disease-causing infections.

THEY WORK BEST WHEN GIVEN AT A YOUNG AGE⁵

HPV vaccines work best if given prior to exposure with HPV, as HPV infection is very common among teens and adults. Children also have better immune response to the vaccine.

THEY PREVENT INFECTION, BUT DO NOT TREAT EXISTING INFECTION¹

The HPV vaccine is not used to treat existing HPV infections or diseases caused by HPV, but instead to prevent the development of cancers.

Frequently asked questions on HPV vaccines^{4,5,6}

Who can be vaccinated against HPV?

Any gender ages 9 years and above can be vaccinated against HPV.

How can my child avail of the HPV school-based immunization program?

Public school learners are required to provide a signed parental consent for vaccination. Doses will be recorded in the immunization card, which you should keep for future medical reference.

Is it necessary to vaccinate my child against HPV at a young age?

Yes. The vaccine is most effective when given before being exposed to HPV infection or before engaging in any sexual contact.

How many doses should my child get?

If your child is 9 to 14 years of age, two doses are needed. However, for 15 years up, three doses are needed. The vaccine is given on the upper part of the arm. Consult your healthcare professional for further information.

*Sa HPV vaccine,
Cervical cancer-free ang future natin.*



Photo credit: DOH

For more resources,
scan the QR code



What are the common side effects of HPV vaccine?

It is usually painful at the site of injection. It can also cause slight inflammation, fever, or dizziness. It is advised that the child should rest for 10-15 minutes after receiving the dose.

Is there a possibility of overdosing on HPV vaccines?

There is no risk of overdosing on HPV vaccines. It is important to follow the appropriate vaccination schedule.

Is there anyone who should not get HPV vaccine?

Consult your healthcare professional for information about the vaccine.

Anyone who has ever had a life-threatening allergic reaction to any component of HPV vaccine, or to a previous dose of HPV vaccine, should not get the vaccine. Anyone with severe allergies, including an allergy to yeast, should talk to their doctor before getting the vaccine.

People who are mildly ill (low-grade fever of less than 37.8 degrees, a cold, runny nose, or cough) when a dose of HPV vaccine is planned can still be vaccinated. People with a moderate or severe illness should wait until they are better.

What do I need to do before and after the vaccination of my child?

Talk to your child about the benefits of HPV vaccination.

References

- ⁴World Health Organization. Human papillomavirus(HPV) and cervical cancer. Retrieved from [https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/human-papillomavirus-\(hpv\)-and-cervical-cancer](https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/human-papillomavirus-(hpv)-and-cervical-cancer). Date accessed 28 January 2020
- ⁵ICO/IARC Information Centre on HPV and Cancer (HPV Information Centre). <https://hpvcentre.net/statistics/reports/PHL.pdf?t=1559474177321>
- ⁶<https://www.who.int/news/item/06-07-2021-new-recommendations-for-screening-and-treatment-to-prevent-cervical-cancer>
- ⁷<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/vpd/hpv/hcp/recommendations.html>
- ⁸<https://www.cdc.gov/hpv/hcp/answering-questions.html>
- ⁹<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccinesafety/vaccines/hpv/hpv-safety-faqs.html>
- ¹⁰Cancer TODAY | IARC - <https://ico.iarc.who.int/> Data version: Globocan 2022 (version 1.1) - 08.02.2024
- ¹¹Fertay J, Ervik M, Lam F, Laversanne M, Colombet M, Mery L, Piñeros M, Znaor A, Soerjomataram I, Bray F (2024). Global Cancer Observatory: Cancer Today. Lyon, France: International Agency for Research on Cancer. Available from: <https://ico.iarc.who.int/today>.
- ¹²<https://ebscaner.org/en/news/22601-exercise-and-nutrition-a-statistically-significant-combination-against-hpv-infection>

Sa aking
paglaki,
walang
HPV.

INFORMATION LEAFLET
HPV and the HPV vaccine



S.H.I.E.L.D. Against Cervical Cancer Program
Strengthening HPV Immunization towards Elimination
through Leadership Development