

RPCI Quality Metric Tips: HPV 13

Human Papillomavirus (HPV) is the most common sexually transmitted disease in the US. According to a 2022 CDC report approximately 37,000 people, both females and males, are diagnosed with HPV-related cancers annually in the US. If you complete HPV vaccination before being exposed to the virus, it is over 90% effective in preventing genital warts, high-grade cervical lesions, and cervical cancer.

RPCI Best Practice Workflow Recommendation

- All patients by age 13 have received both doses of the HPV Vaccination.
 - Two vaccinations **between the member's 9th and 13th birthdays** with dates of service at least 146 days apart.

Provider Tips

- If starting vaccination at age 15 and above, the patient will require three doses of the vaccination.
- Billing code 90649, 90650, 90651 drops automatically when vaccine is ordered.

Age and Schedule

CDC Recommended Dosage and Schedule

Age	Number of Doses	Dosing Schedule
Initiating vaccination at ages 9 through 14 years	2	0, 6-12 months*
Initiating vaccination at ages 15 through 26 years	3	0, 1-2, 6 months**
Initiating vaccination at ages 27 through 45 years	3	0, 1-2, 6 months**
Immunocompromised persons initiating vaccination at ages 9 through 26 years	3	0, 1-2, 6 months**

* In a two-dose schedule of HPV vaccine, the minimum interval is 5 months between the first and second dose.

** In a three-dose schedule of HPV vaccine, the minimum intervals are 4 weeks between the first and second dose, 12 weeks between the second and third dose, and 5 months between the first and third dose.

Original CDC source is linked [here](#)

Refer to the [incentive guide](#) for metric definition, target, and incentive information.

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Common Parent Questions

- Recommend HPV vaccination in the **same way** and on the **same day** as all adolescent vaccines. You can say, "Now that your son is 11, he is due for vaccinations today to help protect him from meningitis, HPV cancers, and whooping cough. Do you have any questions?" Taking the time to listen and understand parents' concerns can help you respond to their concerns more effectively.

Why do they need HPV vaccine at such a young age?

Vaccines protect your child before they are exposed to a disease. That's why we give the HPV vaccine earlier rather than later, to protect them long before they are ever exposed. Also, if your child gets the shot now, they will only need two doses. If you wait until your child is older, they may end up needing three shots.

Why do boys need the HPV vaccine?

HPV vaccination can help prevent future infections that can lead to cancers of the penis, anus, and back of the throat in men.

I'm worried my child will think that getting this vaccine makes it OK to have sex.

Studies tell us that getting HPV vaccine doesn't make kids more likely to start having sex. I made sure my child (or grandchild, etc.) got HPV vaccine, and I recommend we give your child her first HPV shot today.

I'm worried about the safety of HPV vaccine. Do you think it's safe?

Yes, HPV vaccination is very safe. Like any medication, vaccines can cause side effects, including pain, swelling, or redness where the shot was given. That's normal for HPV vaccine too and should go away in a day or two. Sometimes kids faint after they get shots and they could be injured if they fall from fainting. We'll have your child stay seated after the shot to help protect him/her.

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