

# HPV VACs

Vaccinate Adolescents against Cancers

December 2015  
PARTNER  
UPDATE

Please find **key resources** below that are available for your use and the **latest news** and studies on HPV vaccination. Feel free to reach out to your American Cancer Society contact for more information and additional support.

## Myth of the Month

**The Myth:** People already know about the HPV vaccine, and will ask for it if they want it.

**Fact:** Studies have shown many parents (37%) have no prior knowledge about the vaccine before their child's provider educates them about it. Knowledge varies across racial/ethnic groups, socioeconomic status, and geographical areas.

**Talking Point:** A strong provider recommendation is the **single best predictor of vaccination**.

### Reference:

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (n.d.) Frequently Asked Questions about HPV Vaccine Safety. Retrieved from <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccinesafety/vaccines/hpv/hpv-safety-faqs.html>

Wisk L.E., Allchin A., Witt W.P. (2014). [Disparities in human papillomavirus vaccine awareness among U.S. parents of preadolescents and adolescents](#). Sexually Transmitted Diseases, 41(2): 117-122.  
doi: 10.1097/OLQ.0000000000000086

## HPV Vaccination IN THE NEWS

[Default policies and parents' consent for school-located HPV vaccination](#). Journal of Behavioral Medicine.

[HPV vaccine completion and dose adherence among commercially insured females aged 9 through 26 years in the US](#). Papillomavirus Research.

[Message framing, perceived susceptibility, and intentions to vaccinate children against HPV among African American parents](#). Journal of Health Communication.

[Prevalence and predictors of human papillomavirus \(HPV\) vaccination among young women surviving childhood cancer](#). Journal of Cancer Survivorship.

[Providers' beliefs about the effectiveness of the HPV vaccine in preventing cancer and their recommended age groups for vaccination: Findings from a provider survey, 2012](#). Preventive Medicine.

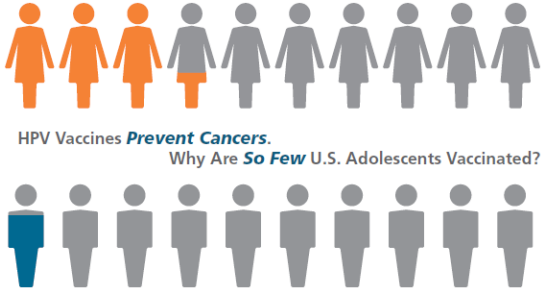
[Review concludes evidence does not support HPV vaccines cause CRPS or POTS](#). European Medicines Agency

[The comparative efficacy of a hybrid guilt-free appeal and a traditional fear appeal to influence HPV vaccination intentions](#). Communication Research.

# Resource SPOTLIGHT



## Accelerating HPV Vaccine Uptake: Executive Summary Report



The [President's Cancer Panel](#) finds underuse of HPV vaccines a serious but correctable threat to progress against cancer. In this report, the Panel presents four goals to increase HPV vaccine uptake. Three of these focus on the United States and the fourth addresses ways the United States can help to increase global uptake of the vaccines.

## HPV Summit Article in MD Anderson's Cancer Frontline



At a recent [summit for NCI-designated cancer centers](#), key national partners including the National Cancer Institute, American Cancer Society and dozens of cancer centers discussed strategies for increasing HPV vaccination.

## Provider Letter Example

February 2016  
Dear Colleagues,

February serves as National Cancer Prevention Month. Cancer remains the second cause of death in Georgia. We are making significant progress in vaccinating our children against the HPV virus, but we still lag behind compared to other required vaccines like Tetra and Measles/Mumps. In action to cervical cancer, the HPV vaccine prevents cancer of the cervix, vagina, penis, anus and cancer in the back of the throat.

You hold the power to change these statistics as a committed practitioner. Parents overwhelmingly listen and act based solely on their doctor's recommendation. In fact, studies have shown that a patient who receives a provider recommendation is 4 to 5 times more likely to receive the HPV vaccination.

1. Recommend the HPV vaccine to the parents of teens and children.
2. Present the HPV vaccination as a MUST, rather than an optional vaccination.
3. Be educated.

Learn how CDC provides by completing the CDC Training. Call the Short Module on HPV at [http://www.cdc.gov/od/oc/ohrt/cdc\\_training.html](http://www.cdc.gov/od/oc/ohrt/cdc_training.html). This CDC training offers more flexibility than a standard webinar training. You call the Short is updated regularly to include the latest professional and recommendation in vaccine practice.

Category	National Average (%)	GA Average (%)	National Average (%)	GA Average (%)
1 & 2 HPV	21.9	24.1	22.1	24.1
3 HPV	18.0	18.3	18.0	18.3
4 HPV	16.4	16.4	16.4	16.4

We know you have multiple priorities as it concerns the health of your young patients. However, you have an opportunity to truly prevent some types of cancer for our future generations. This opportunity can only be realized with your strong recommendation that meeting the HPV Vaccination is cancer prevention. Together, we will not only save lives of future Georgians, but we will also have future economic resources by preventing more cancer diagnoses. We thank you for your continued commitment to the health of our young Georgian community.

Sincerely,  
Dorinda Fitzgerald, MD  
Commissioner, Georgia Department of Public Health

Evlyn Johnson, MD  
President, Georgia Chapter-American Academy of Pediatrics

With National Cancer Prevention Month quickly approaching in February, the Georgia AAP Chapter has created an excellent [provider letter example](#) for that extra push to increase HPV vaccination rates.

This can be used as a template for other states that may want to write similar letters.

## CDC updates Vaccine Conversations with Parents website

Provider Resources for Vaccine Conversations with Parents

Conversations Home

Talking to Parents about Vaccines

Understanding Vaccines and Vaccine Safety

Vaccine-preventable Diseases

About Vaccine Conversations with Parents

Provider Resources Web Tools

Resources to Share with Parents

Get Email Updates

To receive email updates about this page, enter your email address.

What's this?

Making time to talk with parents about vaccines during the well-child visit may be challenging. Here's some help. CDC, AAP, and AAFP created these materials to help you assess parents' needs, identify the role they want to play in making decisions for their child's health, and then communicate in ways that meet their needs. These resources are collectively called *Provider Resources for Vaccine Conversations with Parents*.

For You and Your Practice

Resources to Share with Parents

Help strengthen communication between you and parents, and get information about:

- Talking to parents about vaccines
- Understanding vaccines and vaccine safety
- Immunization schedules
- Research supporting these resources

Download and print these materials to help parents understand vaccine benefits and risks.

- If you choose not to vaccinate
- Vaccine-preventable disease fact sheets
- Childhood immunization schedule
- More resources

The CDC has recently updated its [Provider Resources for Vaccine Conversations with Parents](#) webpage. The new design provides better access from mobile devices.



## RESOURCES - Continued

### Skeptical Raptor Blog: A Vaccine Search Engine

This blog, which uses evidence to debunk “pseudoscience,” includes a [vaccine search engine](#) which will return results only from peer-reviewed websites and blogs, eliminating unreliable sources. Great for answering quick questions, this resource can help you answer common questions and concerns about any vaccine.

### CDC Message Map

1	2	3
<p>HPV vaccination is the best way to prevent many types of cancer.</p> <p>HPV infections that do not go away can lead to cancer.</p> <p>HPV vaccination prevents infection with the most common cancer-causing HPV types.</p> <p>HPV vaccine is cancer prevention.</p>	<p>HPV vaccination is reducing HPV disease.</p> <p>HPV vaccination is decreasing the HPV infections that cause cancer.</p> <p>HPV vaccine works very well when given before HPV infection.</p> <p>HPV vaccination is safe; the benefits far outweigh any potential risks.</p>	<p>Routine adolescent immunization at ages 11 or 12 includes HPV vaccination.</p> <p>Clinicians should recommend and give HPV vaccine with the other adolescent vaccines.</p> <p>Age 11 or 12 is when all adolescents should receive HPV vaccine.</p> <p>Preteens routinely get HPV vaccines.</p>

This simple [Message Map](#) offers three main messages when recommending HPV vaccination. Below each key message are three talking points that can guide conversations with parents.

### HPV Vaccine Videos

The [CDC](#) and [AAP](#) have several videos that promote HPV vaccination through the perspectives of providers, parents, and HPV-related cancer survivors. These are great for playing in clinic waiting rooms.

**\*Important caution about YouTube videos\***  
It is best to download videos to share with your constituents, rather than streaming from the YouTube site or providing links to YouTube. YouTube’s “related video” feature inevitably pulls up anti-vaccine hoax videos when watching credible videos.

### New Task Force Finding

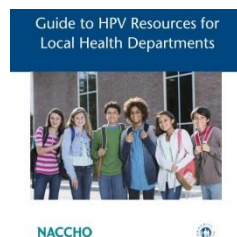
As recommended by the [Community Prevention Task Force](#), the maintenance of school-based health centers in low-income communities has been shown to improve education and health outcomes.

### City/County Level Resources

NACCHO has several resources on their HPV vaccination work with health departments across the country. Among the resources are:

- [Strategies 10 health departments are implementing](#)
- [An example of action planning from KY](#)

In addition, NACCHO’s [Guide to HPV Resources for Local Health Departments](#) is a key resource when working with local health departments.



### Discontinuing Resource



Merck is discontinuing these blinking light reminder magnets for 2016. [The text message reminder service](#) is still available.