The HPV vaccine is necessary, regardless of sexual activity.

Vaccines are for prevention, not treatment, so they only work if given before coming in contact with a virus. Research also shows that younger people create more antibodies to the vaccine than those in their late teens. Studies have shown that HPV vaccination is not associated with changes in sexual behavior. Age of onset of sexual activity, incidence of STIs, and rates of pregnancy have all been shown to be similar in vaccinated girls compared to unvaccinated girls.

TALKING POINT: People are vaccinated well before they’re exposed to an infection (i.e., measles and other recommended childhood vaccines). Similarly, they should be vaccinated before they are exposed to HPV. Also, the HPV vaccine produces a higher immune response in preteens than it does in older teens.

References:
^Citations available at the end of the full Just the Facts document.
The National HPV Vaccination Roundtable has developed the “You Have the Power to Prevent Cancer!” communications package. HPV vaccination increases five-fold in August at the peak of back-to-school season, when well-child appointments surge. This communications package provides ten easy ways for healthcare providers to improve vaccination rates in their offices and clinics during the summer months. Go here to download 10-weeks of content to help you encourage medical providers to flex their super powers and prevent HPV cancers!

By signing up, you and your organization will have access to:
- Audience brief to help you target posts and ads
- Copy for your website
- 8.5 x 11’ poster for you to personalize, print, and use
- 10 unique social media posts for Facebook and Twitter
- Newsletter blurb
- Images to use on social media, newsletters, emails, and more

August is National Immunization Awareness Month

Every year in August, National Immunization Awareness Month (NIAM) provides an opportunity to raise awareness of the importance of immunization and the need for improving national vaccination coverage levels. This year, you can find helpful tools and resources from the National HPV Vaccination Roundtable and the National Public Health Information Coalition (NPHIC).

- The National HPV Roundtable NIAM communication package contains web banners, sample messages, and graphics to use with social media, plus much more.
- The NIAM communications toolkit includes key messages, vaccine information, sample news releases and articles, links to web resources from other organizations and more.

The topic for the week of August 21–27 is Preteens/teens: future with vaccines. Show your support during this week!

Immunization QI Tools from HPV IQ

Teams of researchers and public health professionals developed quality improvement tool kits and tested them in clinics across the country. The kits are designed to be effective, easy to use, and easy to adapt to practitioners’ local needs and resources. Click here to view the resources.
AHEC Webinar: “HPV QI: Small-Scale Efforts for Practice Transformation”

The National AHEC Organization will present a webinar titled "HPV Quality Improvement: Small-Scale Efforts for Practice Transformation" on August 24 at 3:00 p.m. (ET). Find out how you can transform your practice by utilizing a sustainable intervention that fits or even simplifies your current work flows.

Register Here!

CDC Webinar: “Getting Parents to Yes!”

CDC will be sponsoring a webinar on August 25 at 12:00 p.m. (ET) titled "Getting Parents to Yes! Vaccine Conversations That Work for Providers & Parents." With parents consuming so much conflicting health information about their babies and children, providing an effective vaccination recommendation can be harder than ever. Fortunately, there are strategies for discussing immunization with parents that can help them feel comfortable protecting their children with on-time immunization. Join the webinar to learn these strategies.

Access registration information

Webinar Replay: CME/CNE Credit Available

The Three Rivers Area Health Education Center (AHEC) is providing a free continuing education opportunity to learn more about HPV vaccination hesitancy and associated myths. Discussion includes the current state of misinformation and concerns about the HPV vaccination. Each myth will be addressed with an evidence-based assessment of the current research.

Credits offered:
1 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit™ for physicians
1 contact hour for nurses by the Alabama Board of Nursing

Register: HERE
Available Until: Saturday, September 30, 2017
New Immunization and Practice-Change Tools Available from the AAP

Check out the new and updated immunization and practice-change tools from the American Academy of Pediatrics. The comprehensive Immunization Training Guide has been updated and a new Adolescent Immunization Flip Chart is available. Order one here.

The new practice-change tools cover standing orders to improve immunization rates, contraindications, and use of Vaccine Information Statements. Use the hyperlinks below to access sample project charters and sample Plan-Do-Study-Act cycles:

- Practice-change tools on use of standing orders
- Practice-change tools on contraindications
- Practice-improvement tools on use of Vaccine Information Statements

Open for Nominations: Cancer Prevention Champion Award

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Association of American Cancer Institutes (AACI), and the American Cancer Society are partnering to recognize immunization providers who are successfully preventing HPV cancers through timely vaccination of their young adolescent patient population.

Clinicians, clinics, practices, groups, and/or health systems can be nominated for the HPV Vaccine Is Cancer Prevention Champion Award if they are effectively working to protect their adolescent patients against HPV cancers by achieving high HPV vaccination completion rates. Each year, the award program will honor up to one champion from each of the 10 U.S. Department of Health and Human Services regions. Visit www.cdc.gov/hpv/champions to review award criteria and to submit your nominations before September 15, 2017.