

April 2009

Protect Your Daughter

## Make an informed decision: Know the facts!

Spokane Regional Health District  
[www.protectyours.org](http://www.protectyours.org)

Immunization Action Coalition  
[www.immunize.org](http://www.immunize.org)

Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC)  
[www.cdc.gov/vaccines](http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines)

Is your daughter protected?



The HPV immunization works best given well before girls are sexually active.



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Always working for a safer and healthier community



## Protect Yours



### What is HPV?

Human papillomavirus (HPV) is a very common virus that most people get at some time in their lives through sexual activity. Most of the time people with HPV have no symptoms and do not know they have it. HPV is the leading cause of cervical cancer.

At least 8 out of every 10 women who have ever been sexually active will get HPV at some time in their lives.

Every year more than 11,000 women in the U.S. find out they have invasive cervical cancer and nearly 4,000 die.

#### Recommendations:

The HPV vaccine should be given to girls and women well before they become sexually active. The immunization is given in a 3-dose series and can be started as early as age 9. The vaccine series should be completed by the age of 26 according to the schedule below.

First Dose: As soon as your daughter is in the recommended age group

Second Dose: 2 months after dose 1

Third Dose: 6 months after dose 1

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- Almost all cervical cancer is caused by HPV.
- Approximately 6.2 million people become infected every year with HPV.
- HPV is most common in young women who are in their late teens and early 20s.
- The HPV immunization protects against four types of HPV that cause 70% of cervical cancers and 90% of genital warts.
- The most common side effects of the HPV immunization are pain and redness or swelling at the injection site.

You can protect your daughters from the most common forms of HPV by getting them immunized.



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[www.protectyours.org](http://www.protectyours.org)  
or talk to your doctor to learn more