

TO: EZIZ Users
FROM: CDPH
SUBJECT: Take a Stand to End HPV Cancer
DATE: 6/20/18

Take a Stand to End HPV Cancer by Vaccinating your Preteen Patients this Summer!

As you may know, the human papillomavirus (HPV) causes six types of cancer and is a common infection. In fact, 9 out of 10 adults – both men and women – are infected with HPV at some point in their lives. Fortunately, we have a vaccine that will prevent this infection and many of the cancers it causes. In the United States, 6 out of 10 of girls and boys aged 13-17 have started the HPV vaccination series, but only 4 out of 10 of girls and boys are up to date on the full series.

On June 8th, 2018 the American Cancer Society (ACS) launched a [public health campaign](#) to eliminate vaccine-preventable HPV cancers, starting with cervical cancer. Their goal is to have 80% of 13-year old boys and girls fully vaccinated with HPV vaccine by 2026 – 20 years after the introduction of the first HPV vaccine. It's a daunting goal – but with the support of healthcare providers and clinic staff like you around the country working to improve HPV vaccination, it is possible. Learn more about the campaign and find posters and fact sheets at www.cancer.org/dreambig.

What can you do to reach an HPV vaccination rate of 80%?

1. **Vaccinate your patients at the recommended age of 11-12 years** as recommended by the CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices.
2. **Know your HPV vaccination rates.** To achieve a goal of 80%, it helps to know your starting point: your practice's current rates.
3. **Recommend HPV vaccine the same day and the same way** you recommend all other vaccines. For example, "I see here that Luis just turned 11. Because he's 11, Luis is due for meningitis, HPV, and Tdap vaccines. We'll give those at the end of today's visit."
4. **Engage everyone in your office.** Ensure that each team member, from front desk to medical assistant, is aware of the importance of HPV vaccine, educated on proper vaccination practices and recommendations, and ready to answer [parents' questions](#).

5. **Implement systems to ensure you never miss an opportunity.** Create a system to check immunization status ahead of all visits. Schedule appointments for the next dose the same day as the first. Utilize reminder/recall systems. (The ACS National HPV Vaccination Roundtable has helpful [action guides](#).)

The California Department of Public Health has resources to help you educate parents of your adolescent patients. Order resources for free from your [local health department](#).

- [How Important is HPV Vaccine for Preteens and Teens](#) flyer | [Spanish](#)
- [Fotonovela for Latina parents of preteens](#) (English/Spanish)

To see a world free of HPV cancers, we must act now. Will you take a stand to eliminate HPV cancers?