



## Important News from the San Antonio Metropolitan Health District (SAMHD)

January 27, 2010

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### **Use of VFC Human Papillomavirus Virus (HPV) Vaccine in Males**

On October 21, 2009, the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) updated the recommendations for use of human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine to include permissive use (i.e., it is not a routine recommendation) of the quadrivalent vaccine, Gardasil<sup>®</sup>, for males. The VFC Program will now make the quadrivalent HPV vaccine, Gardasil<sup>®</sup>, available to providers for those patients whose parent/guardian requests Gardasil<sup>®</sup> for their VFC-eligible male child between the ages of 9 through 18 years. According to the ACIP, immunization of males with the quadrivalent HPV vaccine, Gardasil<sup>®</sup>, reduces the likelihood of acquiring genital warts, and should be ideally administered before potential exposure to HPV through sexual contact. Currently, the bivalent HPV (types 16 and 18) vaccine, Cervarix<sup>®</sup>, is not licensed for use in males.

#### **Recommended Dosage Intervals:**

First dose: at elected date  
2nd dose: 2 months after the 1st dose  
3rd dose: 6 months after the 1st dose

#### **Minimum Age and Intervals:**

<u>Minimum Age</u>	<u>Dose 1 to 2</u>	<u>Dose 2 to 3</u>
9 years old	4 weeks	12 weeks

#### **Additional HPV Vaccine Information:**

- If the HPV vaccine schedule is interrupted, the vaccine series does not need to be restarted and can be administered either simultaneously or at any time before or after other inactivated or live vaccines
- Syncope can occur after vaccination, most commonly among adolescents and young adults. To avoid serious injury related to a syncopal episode, vaccine providers should consider observing patients for 15 minutes after they receive the vaccine.

If you wish to make the HPV vaccine available for your eligible male patient, you can place your order during your next regularly schedule order cycle. Should you have questions about this information please call Kenya Wilson, VFC Program Coordinator at 207-3974. For questions regarding vaccine ordering, contact Anthony Johnson, Vaccine Manager at 207-4015.

For additional information, please see the following CDC website:

<http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/recs/provisional/downloads/hpv-vac-dec2009-508.pdf>

The HPV VFC Resolution:

<http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/programs/vfc/downloads/resolutions/1009hpv-508.pdf>