



Important News from the San Antonio Metropolitan Health District (SAMHD) March 16, 2011

Use of VFC Human Papillomavirus (HPV) Vaccines

This message is to consolidate and update information previously provided from the Metro Health VFC program regarding the indications and use of the two available human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccines. These products include: **1) Gardasil®** human papillomavirus quadrivalent (Types 6, 11, 16, &18) from Merck to help prevent cervical, vaginal, vulvar and anal cancers and pre-cancers, as well as genital warts, caused by certain types of HPV. It is indicated for use in males and females 9-18 years of age; and **2) Cervarix®** human papillomavirus bivalent (Types 16 & 18) vaccine from GSK for the prevention of cervical pre-cancers and cervical cancer associated with oncogenic HPV types 16 and 18 for use in girls and young women 9-18 years of age.

To reduce the likelihood of exposure to human papillomavirus, the vaccine should be administered ideally before potential exposure to the virus through sexual contact. The appropriate HPV vaccine (3 dose series) is available to VFC providers for eligible patients according to the following guidelines:

Indications for Use and Schedule

- Routinely recommended for girls 11-12 years of age (routine recommendation from ACIP). Can be given as young as age 9 years at provider's discretion.
- Catch-up for females 13-18 yrs of age who have not been vaccinated.
- Consider administering Gardasil® to males to reduce their likelihood of acquiring genital warts (ACIP permissive statement). Gardasil® is available for those providers that wish to make it available to their eligible male patients (9-18 years).

Recommended 3 Dose Schedule for HPV	
First Dose	11-12 Years of age
Second Dose	2 months after 1 st dose
Third Dose	6 months after the 1 st dose

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.
- The HPV vaccine series should be completed with the same HPV vaccine product whenever possible.
- 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.
- There are two HPV Vaccine Information Statement (VIS) available; one for each product. Use the VIS that matches the vaccine you are giving. They are both available from this CDC website: <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/pubs/vis/default.htm#hpv>

For additional information about the different vaccines, contraindications, and precautions, please visit this CDC website: <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/pubs/ACIP-list.htm#hpv>

If you have questions about this information please contact Kenya Wilson, VFC Program Coordinator at 207-3974. For questions regarding vaccine ordering, contact Anthony Johnson, Vaccine Manager at 207-4015.