



Important News from the San Antonio Metropolitan Health District (SAMHD) February 15, 2012

Revised Recommendations for the use of VFC Human Papillomavirus (HPV) Vaccines

This information will revise the March 17, 2011 memo from the Metro Health VFC program regarding the indications and use of the human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine. On October 25, 2011, the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommended routine use of quadrivalent human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine (HPV4; Gardasil, Merck & Co. Inc.) in males aged 11 or 12 years, as well as males 13 to 18 years of age (VFC-eligible) who have not completed the HPV series.

The VFC program provides two licensed HPV products: **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. 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, but can be given as young as age 9 years at provider's discretion. (**Cervarix® & Gardasil®**)
- For females 13-18 yrs of age who have either not been vaccinated, or have not completed the HPV series. (**Cervarix® & Gardasil®**)
- Routinely recommended for males 11 – 12 years of age (can be given as young as age 9 years at provider's discretion), and/or those 13 – 18 years of age who have either not been vaccinated, or not completed the HPV series. (**Gardasil® only**).

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. Please ensure to use the VIS that matches the vaccine you are giving. They are both available from the CDC website at: <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/pubs/vis/default.htm#hpv>

For additional information about the vaccines, indications, contraindications, and precautions, please visit the CDC website at: <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 Management at 207-4015.