

HPV: Don't Wait: Vaccinate! Increasing 1st Dose HPV Vaccine Uptake

Part 4 Quality Improvement Maintenance of Certification Activity Sponsored by the Indiana Immunization Coalition and Approved by the American Board of Pediatrics (ABP) and the American Board of Family Medicine (ABFM)

Aim of Project:

Physicians will increase their **1st dose HPV vaccine** rate for eligible patients aged 9-26 by 25% during the 6-month project period.

Need for Project:

Nationally HPV vaccine rates lag below the other recommended adolescent vaccines. Only about half of our girls, and even less boys nationwide are receiving the HPV vaccine, while almost 90% of teens are receiving their MCV4 and Tdap vaccines. All of these adolescent vaccines are recommended by CDC and the Advisory Committee for Immunization Practices to be given to teens at the same age (11 or 12 years). This tells us that providers are missing opportunities to administer the HPV vaccine. All three vaccines can be given to teens on the same day. To increase HPV vaccine rates, providers should recommend all three vaccines “in the same way and on the same day.”

Educational Component:

CDC research shows that parents who opt out of receiving the vaccine for their teen lack understanding about the safety and efficacy of the vaccine. Another factor is the lack of a strong provider recommendation in conjunction with the other adolescent vaccines.

Participating physicians will receive an HPV resource tool kit developed by the Indiana Immunization Coalition adapted from evidenced-based information from CDC and the American Academy of Pediatrics. Information within the tool kit relates to HPV prevalence, HPV related cancers and disease, vaccine safety and efficacy, and strategies for recommending and talking with families about the vaccine.

Requirements for Meaningful Physician Participation:

Physicians will complete all required components of the HPV MOC project which is six months in length. The project is online but can be completed “offline” in some instances with permission from the Project Leader. Each participating physician will register online for the project with a user name and password. He/She can access the project components and activities throughout the 6 -month period with this username and password. Physicians who participate will agree to track the number of patients **eligible** to receive the **1st dose HPV vaccine** along with the number who **receive** the vaccine. Physicians will also track the number of patients they vaccinate who receive appointments for their second dose of the vaccine. Physicians will submit the daily tracking log monthly to the Project Leader via an online submission form. Emails, phone calls, or meetings as needed will occur throughout the project between the Physician and Project leader to discuss progress or barriers. At the end of the project (month 6), the Physicians will submit all required project components, along with the Attestation form, which is required by the American Board of Pediatrics (ABP) and the American Board of Family Medicine to the Project Leader for submission to the ABP and ABFM.

Patient Population for Project:

Patients who are “eligible” for this project are females and males aged 9-26 who visit the office during the 6-month period. Exclusions include those who have already received the first dose of HPV vaccine, those who are pregnant or too sick to receive the HPV vaccine on that day. In addition, those who have a yeast allergy should not receive the Gardasil vaccine.

While this project focuses on tracking **1st dose HPV vaccine**, it is strongly recommended that you adhere to the Advisory Committee for Immunization Practices recommendation to administer the complete series (2 doses for those who begin the series at ages 9 through 14, and three doses for those who start the series at ages 15 through 26). Reminder recalls are recommended to ensure completion of the series for optimal protection against HPV-related conditions and cancers.

Note: The ABP and ABFM require that physicians see at least 10 patients per month who are eligible for the HPV vaccine to participate.