

Title: HPV Vaccine and Men

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Abstract: Vaccinating men against human papillomavirus (HPV) infection is controversial and continues to be studied. Several studies have shown some evidence that specific populations of men may benefit from this vaccine. However, most of this knowledge is not reaching those who may benefit. This brochure provides a basic overview of HPV, risks associated with infection, and which populations of men may benefit from receiving the vaccine.

This document was created by a medical student enrolled in the Primary Care Clerkship at the University of Minnesota Medical School as part of the course project. The aim of the project is to present information on a medical topic in the format of a patient education handout. It does not necessarily reflect the views of the University of Minnesota Medical School physicians and faculty. These materials are provided for informational purposes only and are in no way intended to take the place of the advice and recommendations of your personal health care provider. The information provided may no longer be up to date since it has not been reviewed since the date of creation. The information provided should not be used to diagnose a health problem or disease, or as a means of determining treatment. In the event of a medical emergency, immediately contact a doctor or call 911.

## Are there any risks to getting vaccinated?

The most common injection site experiences are:

- Redness
- Pain
- Swelling

The most common systemic adverse effects are:

- Fever
- Headache
- Nausea

Talk to your doctor about other possible risks.



## For further information on HPV & HPV vaccination:

American Cancer Society guidelines for HPV:

<http://www.amcancersoc.org>

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Website:

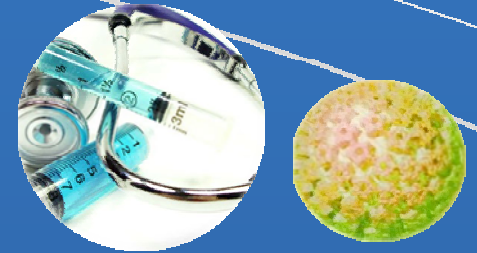
<http://www.cdc.gov/std/hpv/default.htm>

Gardasil® Website:

<http://www.gardasil.com>

Or talk to your doctor

Developed by  
Bringham Strelow



## The HPV Vaccine and Men

## Patient Education Tool

University of Minnesota  
Family Medicine Clerkship



# What is HPV?

- HPV is short for *human papillomavirus* and is one of the most common sexually transmitted diseases (STDs).
- There are more than 40 different types of HPV that are transmitted sexually.
- Infection with this virus often occurs without symptoms, but frequently presents clinically as warts on and around the penis and anus in men.
- More significantly, this virus can cause penile cancer in men as well as anal cancer.

## “Is the vaccine for me?”



### **Some men are more likely to develop HPV-related diseases than others:**

Gay and bisexual men are 17 times more likely to develop anal cancer than are heterosexual men.

Men who have human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) are more likely to get severe cases of genital warts that are difficult to treat.

Men with weakened immune systems, including those with HIV, are more likely to develop anal cancer than other men.

The current vaccine protects against the four types of HPV that cause most anal cancers and genital warts.

The vaccine is most effective in those who have not been infected with any of the four types of HPV that the vaccine protects against. This is why experts recommend the vaccine be given to people before they become sexually active.

Vaccinating boys/men may have indirect health benefits for girls/women.

Studies are still being done to find out if the vaccine is safe and effective for boys/men.

The vaccine is given in 3 doses:

- 1<sup>st</sup> dose when you and your health professional choose
- 2<sup>nd</sup> dose two months after the first dose
- 3<sup>rd</sup> dose six months after the first dose

Because the vaccine is not yet licensed by the FDA for use in males, it likely will not be covered by your insurance.

The retail price of the vaccine is about \$125 per dose (\$375 for the series).