HPV- The Nova Scotia Experience
Overview

• History - Existing Program
• Timelines
• Goals
• Challenges/Lessons Learned
• Outcomes
Existing Programs

- Grade 4
- 14-16 year old
Timelines

- April
- May
- June
- Fall 2007
Goals
Challenges

• Timing

• Larger Program Changes

• Media
Timing
Larger Program Changes

• Change in whole school based program

• MMR catch-up
Challenges

“A lie can travel halfway around the world while the truth is still putting on its shoes”

Mark Twain
OUR GIRLS AREN'T GUINEA PIGS
Lessons Learned

• Pay attention to negative and untruthful stories in the media

• Don’t underestimate the potential power & effect of the media to influence the public

• Respond quickly and forcefully to counter mistruths & misinformation

• Ensure your target population receives lots of info that is simple, clear, timely & accessible
Outcomes

• 80% uptake

• Final stats end of June
THE FACTS about Human Papillomavirus (HPV) and HPV Vaccine

What is HPV?

Human papillomavirus (HPV) is a very common sexually transmitted infection. Almost everyone gets HPV at some time in their life. Often, the body gets rid of HPV on its own and you never know you were infected.

There are over 100 different types of HPV. Some are harmless. Other types lead to cervical cancer or genital warts.

There is no cure for HPV, but immunization can prevent infection by the most common types of HPV that affect the genital area. HPV vaccine prevents the two types of HPV that cause 70% of cervical cancer.
Resources

2008-2010
Grade 7 School
Immunization Program
Information for Parents/Guardians
Resources

Links to NS resources

- www.gov.ns.ca/hpp/publichealth/content/pubs/13122_HPVFactsSheet_Aug07_En.pdf
- www.gov.ns.ca/hpp/publichealth/content/pubs/13124_HPVFactsSTeachers_Aug07_En.pdf
- www.gov.ns.ca/hpp/publichealth/content/pubs/13131_Grade7BOOK_Apr08_En.pdf
- www.gov.ns.ca/hpp/publichealth/content/pubs/13127_Grade7WhattoexpextSheet_Apr08_En.pdf
Questions