



# Protect your child from cancer with the HPV vaccine

## Four things you need to know

### 1. The HPV vaccine is cancer prevention

The vaccine protects against HPV infections that can cause:

- 🛡️ **Cervical cancer**
- 🛡️ **Mouth and throat cancer**
- 🛡️ **Anal cancer**
- 🛡️ **Vaginal and vulvar cancer**
- 🛡️ **Penile cancer**

It also protects against infections that cause most genital warts.

### 2. Don't wait to vaccinate

The HPV vaccine is routinely offered in Grade 6. Here's why:

- ✅ **The vaccine works best when given before exposure to HPV.**
- ✅ **Preteens respond especially well to the vaccine, helping to provide long-lasting protection against HPV.**

By getting your child vaccinated, you help protect them against cancers caused by HPV later in life.

### 3. The HPV vaccine is safe

- The HPV vaccine has been carefully monitored for safety for many years.
- Hundreds of millions of doses have been given worldwide.
- Safety monitoring continues to show that the vaccine is safe.

### 4. The HPV vaccine works!

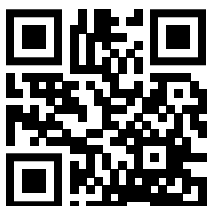
When given at a young age, the HPV vaccine is nearly 100% effective at preventing infection with the most common types of HPV that can cause cervical cancer, other cancers, and genital warts.

## What is HPV?

HPV stands for human papillomavirus. It is a very common virus that spreads through intimate skin-to-skin contact.

**About 3 out of 4 unvaccinated sexually active people will get HPV at some point in their lives.**

There are many different types of HPV. Most HPV infections do not cause health problems and go away on their own. But some infections can lead to cancer or genital warts.



For translations and more information, visit:

**[healthlinkbc.ca/hpv](https://healthlinkbc.ca/hpv)**

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