Improving HPV Vaccination Rates in Michigan: A Call To Action

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Important Messages:
• HPV Vaccination IS Cancer Prevention

• HPV vaccine is recommended at the same time as other teen vaccines

• All Health Care Professionals are urged to give a strong recommendation for ALL of the adolescent vaccines recommended for boys and girls at 11 – 12 years of age.

• Experts are telling us how to improve HPV vaccination rates – \textit{let’s do it!}
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• What are the experts telling us?*
  – Missed clinical opportunities are a problem
  – HPV vaccines are not given at visits at which vaccine eligible children receive at least one other vaccine
  – Providers need to STRONGLY ENCOURAGE HPV vaccination

*President’s Cancer Panel Annual Report 2012-2013
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• Practice Policies

• Population Health


• The President’s Cancer Panel Report recommendations and CDC
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• The role of health care professionals
  – Be familiar with indications for all HPV cancers
  – Make strong recommendations for receiving vaccine at 11 - 12 years of age; pre-teens have a higher immune response to the vaccine than older teens
  – Be aware of, and interested in, systems that can improve practice vaccination rates
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• Removing barriers to HPV vaccination
  – Need to increase acceptance of HPV vaccines especially among parents and caregivers
  – Providers may have difficulties talking about HPV vaccine as it relates to adolescent sexual behavior
  – Providers need to recognize that their own beliefs and values may affect their recommendations for HPV vaccine
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• **In practice** – insights from a pediatric practice
  – How staff approaches HPV vaccination – strong and consistent recommendations
  – Systems in place that the practice uses to reduce missed clinic opportunities for HPV vaccination
  – Addressing vaccination barriers with parents
    • Vaccine is not necessary
    • Side effects/safety concerns
    • Child is not sexually active
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- **CALL TO ACTION** – Let’s work together to:
  - Eliminate missed clinical opportunities for HPV vaccination
  - Providers/clinics – Strongly recommend HPV vaccine in the same way that other adolescent vaccines (Tdap, MCV4, flu) are recommended; do not treat HPV vaccine differently
  - Be HPV vaccine champions in your organizations and communities
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HPV vaccine IS cancer prevention!

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