

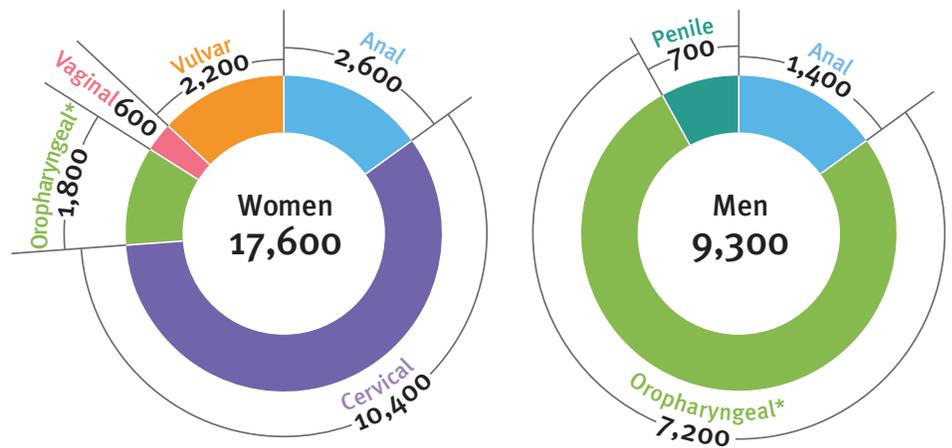
# HPV VACCINE: A Safe and Effective Way to Protect Your Child from Cancer

## HPV (HUMAN PAPILOMAVIRUS) IS VERY COMMON.

- 14 million Americans are newly infected each year. Half are age 15 to 24.

## 27,000 Cancers Caused by HPV Each Year

That equates to one person every 20 minutes, every day, all year long.



\*Cancer in the back of the throat, including base of the tongue and tonsils

## HPV vaccine is highly effective.

- The vaccine protects against the most common cancer-causing types of HPV.
- Large studies before the vaccine was licensed showed that it was
  - Nearly 100% effective in preventing cervical, vaginal and vulvar pre-cancers.
  - 75% effective in preventing anal pre-cancers.
- In the U.S., infections with the types of HPV the vaccine prevents dropped by 56% among girls aged 14 to 19 within the first four years of use.
- Australia has a national HPV school vaccination program. After just three years of the program:
  - Infections with the types of HPV the vaccine prevents decreased 77% among women aged 18 to 24.
  - Pre-cancerous cervical abnormalities decreased 75% in women under 18.
  - Genital warts, which are caused by HPV, decreased 93% in women under 21 and 82% in men under 21.
- If 80% of girls 12 and under in the U.S. were vaccinated against HPV, 98,800 cases of cervical cancer and 31,700 deaths would be prevented.
- The evidence so far shows that protection is long-lasting.

## HPV vaccine is safe.

- Health experts studied the vaccine before it was licensed. They found that less than 0.1% of people had a serious health issue after vaccination. This rate was similar to people who didn't get the vaccine at all.
- Over 67 million doses of HPV vaccine have been distributed in the U.S. and more than 175 million doses have been given worldwide since 2006, when the vaccine was licensed.
- Health experts continue to monitor the safety of the vaccine. In over eight years, no serious safety concerns have been linked to vaccination.
- The most common side-effects reported are mild and short-lived. They include:
  - Injection site pain (about 8 in 10).
  - Redness or swelling at injection site (1 in 4).
  - Low-grade fever (1 in 10).
  - Nausea and headache (1 in 3).
  - Dizziness or fainting. Dizziness and fainting are more common among teens than the general population following *any* vaccination.
- It is safe to receive the HPV vaccine at the same time as other vaccines. Your child's visit to receive the meningococcal vaccine and the Tdap vaccine (required for sixth-grade entry) is the best time to vaccinate your child against HPV.

## THE HPV VACCINE COULD SAVE YOUR CHILD'S LIFE.

Ask your child's doctor about it today.

Make sure your child is vaccinated at age 11 or 12, when the vaccine works best.