



**NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF  
HEALTH AND MENTAL HYGIENE**  
Mary T. Bassett, MD, MPH  
*Commissioner*

**Jane R. Zucker, MD, MSc**  
Assistant Commissioner  
Bureau of Immunization

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Queens, NY 11101-4132

December 22, 2015

Dear Colleague:

On December 14, 2015, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved use of the 9-valent human papillomavirus vaccine (9vHPV) for males aged 16-26 years of age, extending the previous indications that were for females aged 9-26 years of age and males aged 9-15 years of age. With this FDA approval, Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommendations for males aged 16-26 are no longer considered “off label”. Please note that only 9vHPV is available through the New York City (NYC) Vaccines for Children (VFC) program.

ACIP recommendations remain the same as they were previously: administer a 3-dose series of HPV vaccine on a schedule of 0, 1-2, and 6 months to all adolescents 11-12 years of age. Bivalent (2vHPV), quadrivalent (4vHPV) or 9vHPV vaccine may be used for females; 4vHPV or 9vHPV may be used for males. Use every opportunity to vaccinate adolescents on time, including the visit(s) when you administer Tdap and MCV4 vaccines. Administer HPV vaccine to all adolescents 13 through age 18 years, females 19-26 years of age and males 19-21 years of age who have not been previously vaccinated. Males 22-26 years of age at increased risk of HPV infection should also be vaccinated. The detailed ACIP recommendations are available at <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/acip-recs/vacc-specific/hpv.html>

Rates for HPV vaccine coverage in NYC are well below the Healthy People 2020 targets of 80% for completion of the 3-dose series. As of the third quarter of 2015, completion rates for females 13-17 years of age was 46% and completion rates for males aged 13-17 years was 35%. To increase coverage, we remind you to use the reminder/recall functions, including text-messaging, available through the Citywide Immunization Registry (CIR) to identify patients who have not yet initiated or who have not completed the HPV vaccine series.

For questions related to vaccine supply, the VFC program, or the CIR, please email us at [nycimmunize@health.nyc.gov](mailto:nycimmunize@health.nyc.gov) or call 347-396-2400. Thank you for your efforts in protecting NYC residents from vaccine-preventable diseases.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Jane R. Zucker'.

Jane R. Zucker, MD, MSc