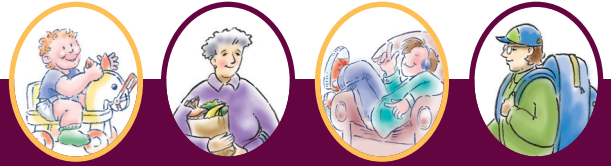


Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) Vaccine



« Vaccination is good protection »

Cervarix or Gardasil vaccines protect against infections caused by the HPV types 16 and 18, and their complications. These types cause 70% of cervical cancers as well as other cancers in the genital area. Gardasil vaccine also protects against infections associated with types 6 and 11 which cause genital warts (condylomas), the most common sexually transmitted infections in Canada. Most people with HPV do not even know they are infected because they have no symptoms. Vaccination is recommended even if someone has already had HPV infection. Women who are vaccinated should continue to follow recommendations for cervical cancer screening.

	HPV infection is spread by:	HPV infection causes:	Possible complications of HPV infection:
DISEASE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Direct contact with the skin or mucous membrane (vulva, vagina, cervix, penis or anus) of an infected person, during sex 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Genital warts • Precancerous lesions on the cervix, vagina, vulva, penis and anus, if the infection persists 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cervical cancer (about 325 cases a year in Québec) • Cancers of the vagina, vulva, penis and anus (rarer) • Death (cervical cancer causes about 80 deaths a year in Québec)

VACCINE

Vaccination is the best protection against infections caused by the HPV types included in the vaccine and their complications. The vaccine is recommended for persons aged 9 to 26. Only Gardasil vaccine is approved for boys and young men. More than one dose is required for good protection. Ideally, the vaccine should be given before a person becomes sexually active.

HPV vaccine is safe. Most reactions are harmless and do not last long. Symptoms experienced after vaccination are not necessarily caused by the vaccine.

	Possible reactions to the vaccine:	What to do:
REACTIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pain (50% and over), redness or swelling (10-49%), itching (1-9%) at the injection site • Headache (50% and over), mild fever, nausea, vomiting, dizziness, diarrhea, joint pain (10-49%) • Malaise, insomnia, skin rash, urticaria (1-9%) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apply a cold, damp compress to the injection site • Take acetaminophen or ibuprofen for temperature of 38.5°C or higher • See a doctor if symptoms are severe

As with any drug or biological product, an allergic reaction may occur. If a severe allergic reaction occurs, it begins within minutes and the person administering the vaccine will be able to treat it. That is why you are advised to remain at the clinic for at least 15 minutes after the vaccine is administered.

If you have any questions, ask the person administering the vaccine or contact Info-Santé (8-1-1) or your doctor.