



Memorandum

TO: Regional Directors, Public Health Regions
Regional Immunization Program Managers, Health Service Regions
Directors, Local Health Departments
Immunization Managers, Local Health Departments

FROM: Karen Hess, Manager 
Vaccine Services Group

THRU: Monica Gamez, Acting Manager 
Immunization Branch

DATE: January 20, 2010

SUBJECT: Texas Vaccines for Children (TVFC) Program: Human Papillomavirus (HPV)
Vaccine Implementation in Males

On October 21, 2009, the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) updated the recommendations for use of human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine which includes a permissive use of the quadrivalent vaccine, Gardasil[®], for males. Beginning immediately, the Texas Vaccines for Children (TVFC) program will offer Gardasil[®] to TVFC providers for males 9 through 18 years of age. Immunization of males with the quadrivalent HPV vaccine reduces the likelihood of acquiring genital warts, and should ideally be administered before potential exposure to HPV through sexual contact.

VFC Resolution

The Vaccines for Children HPV Resolution includes the following recommendation:

- A 3-dose series for HPV vaccine is recommended for females at age 11 or 12 years old
- The second dose should be administered 1 to 2 months after the first dose
- The third dose should be administered 6 months after the first dose
- The HPV vaccines series should be completed with the same HPV vaccine product whenever possible"

Catch-up vaccination is also recommended for females 13 through 18 years of age who have not been previously vaccinated or who have not completed the full series.

Other vaccination with HPV includes:

- Eligible females as young as 9 years old may be vaccinated
- Eligible males 9 through 18 years of age may be vaccinated

The minimum recommended interval between the first and second doses of vaccine is 4 weeks and the minimum recommended interval between the second and third dose of vaccine is 12 weeks. The minimum recommended interval between the first and third dose is 24 weeks.

Inadequate doses of HPV vaccine or vaccine doses received after a shorter-than-recommended dosing interval should be re-administered.

Additional HPV Vaccine Information

- If the HPV vaccine schedule is interrupted, the vaccine series does not need to be restarted
- HPV vaccines are not live vaccines and can be administered either simultaneously or at any time before or after an inactivated or live vaccine
- Whenever possible, the same HPV vaccine product should be used for all doses in the series *
- Syncope can occur after vaccination, most commonly among adolescents and young adults. To avoid serious injury related to a syncopal episode, vaccine providers should consider observing patients for 15 minutes after they are vaccinated
- HPV vaccines are not recommended for use in pregnant women. However, pregnancy testing is not needed before vaccination. Any exposure to vaccine during pregnancy should be reported to the appropriate vaccine pregnancy registry:
1-800-986-8999 (Merck and Co., Inc. for quadrivalent HPV vaccine)
1-888-452-9622 (GlaxoSmithKline for bivalent HPV vaccine)

*The bivalent HPV (types 16 and 18) vaccine, Cervarix®, is not available through the TVFC program at this time.

For complete information on the HPV vaccine please refer to the package insert. For questions related to this memo, contact your local health department or health service region representative.