

What is HPV?

The human papillomavirus (HPV) is a common sexually transmitted infection that affects all genders. HPV can spread through:

- » Vaginal sex
- » Oral sex
- » Anal sex
- » Intimate skin-to-skin touching

Most people will become infected with HPV at some point in their life. Sometimes the body cannot fight certain HPV types, which can cause health problems, but the HPV vaccine protects you from HPV infection and cancers.

HPV Prevention is Cancer Prevention

The HPV vaccine is safe and effective in preventing the following cancers:



How many shots are needed?

The HPV vaccine is recommended for all genders ages 9-45 years old. Depending on age, the schedule will require either two or three vaccines.



The earlier, the better

Doctors recommend children ages 9-12 get the HPV vaccine in order to protect them before exposure to the virus.

For anyone and everyone

Sexually active individuals should still get the HPV vaccine, as it protects against different types of the virus that they may not have been exposed to.

Did you know?

El Paso County has one of the highest HPV vaccination rates in the country. Tiempo de Vacunarte also serves Presidio, Culberson, Brewster, Hudspeth, and Tom Green Counties.



Safety

The HPV vaccine has been safely used for over 15 years. Like any other vaccine, it may cause temporary side effects such as muscle soreness or redness at the injection site.