

Dear Vaccine Provider,

June 2, 2026



## What's new for HPV vaccination in Washington

In Washington State, we recommend the human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine starting at age 9, aligning with the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) guidance. Starting earlier makes a real difference—patients are more likely to complete the series on time before the 13<sup>th</sup> birthday, providing the strongest cancer prevention.

Adolescent vaccination uptake typically rises in the summer, with HPV initiation peaking in August. Every visit—well-child, sports physical, behavioral health, or problem-focused visit—is an opportunity to recommend HPV vaccine alongside other routine immunizations. As you plan for summer demand, please check your vaccine inventory to ensure adequate supply.

To support you, we've released new patient-friendly HPV posters, flyers, and brochures for exam rooms and waiting areas. One of our most requested tools is a simple flyer explaining [why both boys and girls benefit](#) from HPV cancer prevention. Explore additional [HPV-at-nine](#) resources and the new [WA DOH 2026 Immunization Schedule](#). For materials and information in Spanish, [visit this page](#).

## Three actions that support higher HPV vaccination rates

### 1. Recommend HPV vaccination clearly and confidently

Using the Announcement Approach—a brief, presumptive recommendation—is one of the most effective ways to increase vaccine acceptance. [Access training tools](#), short demo videos, and a handout with research-tested messages to address common parent questions.

### 2. Make the Immunization Schedule visible to families

Posting a standardized immunization schedule in your lobby and exam rooms reinforces your recommendation and supports starting HPV vaccination at age 9. [Free laminated immunization schedule posters](#) are available by emailing: [char.raunio@cancer.org](mailto:char.raunio@cancer.org).

Encourage families to access [MyIR Mobile](#) to view and print official Washington State Immunization Records for school or childcare. [Order](#) free MyIR Mobile posters for display in your clinic

### 3. Get free continuing education and tailored clinic-level support to increase HPV vaccination

Email [immunizewa@doh.wa.gov](mailto:immunizewa@doh.wa.gov) to get assistance implementing evidence-based strategies through the Washington Immunization Quality Improvement Program (IQIP). Your team can also earn up to [4 hours free CME/CNE/CE](#), including a module on using the Announcement Approach.

**HPV vaccination is cancer prevention.** Your strong recommendation and use of these tools help protect patients today and prevent cancers in the future. Thank you for the vital work you do every day to keep Washington families healthy.

## Quick Links:

HPV-at-nine resources (posters, flyers, brochures): [www.doh.wa.gov/hpv-at-nine](http://www.doh.wa.gov/hpv-at-nine)

WA DOH 2026 Immunization Schedule (AAP aligned): <https://doh.wa.gov/public-health-provider-resources/vaccine-recommendations>

Sincerely,

Washington State HPV Free Task Force

If you have questions, please contact [sahla.suman@doh.wa.gov](mailto:sahla.suman@doh.wa.gov)