What is the difference between the 9-valent HPV vaccine and the other HPV vaccines?

2v, 4v and 9v HPV vaccines all protect against HPV strains 16 and 18, the types that cause about 66% of cervical cancers and the majority of other HPV-attributable cancers in the United States. 9v HPV targets five additional cancer causing types, which account for about 15% of cervical cancers. 4v and 9v HPV vaccines also protect against HPV 6 and 11, the types that cause genital warts.

What are the ACIP and AAP recommendations for the 9-valent HPV vaccine?

In February 2015 the ACIP voted to add the 9v HPV vaccine to the current HPV vaccine recommendations. They did not express a preference for one HPV vaccine product over another. ACIP and AAP recommend routine vaccination for males and females ages 11–12 with 9v or 4v (as availabilities last), or 2v for females age 11–12. The 9v, 4v (as availabilities last), and 2v vaccines also are recommended for females 13 through 26 years of age not previously immunized. 9v and 4v (as availabilities last) also are recommended for males 13 through 21 years of age not previously immunized. Males 22 through 26 years of age may be immunized with 9v or 4v, and both are recommended for men who have sex with men and people who are immunocompromised (including those with HIV infection) through 26 years of age. No HPV vaccines are licensed for use in people older than 26 years of age.

At what ages did the FDA approve the 9-valent HPV vaccine in males?
The full FDA age indication for 9v HPV vaccination for males and females is now 9–26 years. Merck originally sought and received Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approval of 9v HPV vaccine for females ages 9–26 and males ages 9–15. In December 2015, the FDA announced approval of an expanded age indication for males ages 16–26 years.

What should I do with patients who started the HPV vaccine series with 2-valent HPV or 4-valent HPV vaccine?
ACIP and AAP recommend that any appropriate HPV vaccine (2v, 4v or 9v for females and 4v or 9v for males) can be used to continue or complete the HPV vaccine series.

Is additional vaccination with 9-valent HPV vaccine recommended for persons who have completed a 3-dose series of either 4-valent or 2-valent HPV vaccine?
There is no ACIP or AAP recommendation for routine additional 9v HPV vaccination of persons who previously completed a 4v or 2v vaccination series.