9-Valent HPV Vaccine FAQs

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

2-valent (2v), 4-valent (4v) and 9-valent (9v) 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 should I do with patients who started the HPV vaccine series with 2-valent HPV or 4-valent HPV vaccine?

ACIP recommends 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.

What should I do with patients who have already completed the HPV vaccine series with the 4-valent or 2-valent HPV vaccine?

The ACIP did not address revaccination with 9v vaccine in patients who have completed the series in their February meeting. This will likely be discussed at their next meeting in June 2015.

Why is the use of 9-valent HPV vaccine off-label in males over the age of 15?

Merck sought and received FDA approval for 9v vaccine for females ages 9–25 and males ages 9–15. They have since submitted additional data on males ages 16–26, and are also seeking FDA approval for this age group. The ACIP has reviewed this data and has recommended off-label use for males ages 16–26.

Should I wait to vaccinate with 9-valent HPV vaccine?

No. Practices should continue to vaccinate patients age 11–12 with any appropriate HPV vaccine (2v, 4v or 9v for females and 4v or 9v for males). It is important to initiate and complete the HPV vaccine series using any available HPV vaccine because more than half of vaccine-eligible children are not being protected against HPV-associated cancers.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>High risk HPV strains covered</th>
<th>2-valent HPV vaccine (Cervarix)</th>
<th>4-valent HPV vaccine (Gardasil)</th>
<th>9-valent HPV vaccine (Gardasil-9)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>16, 18</td>
<td>16, 18</td>
<td>16, 18, 31, 33, 45, 52, 58</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Low risk HPV strains covered</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>6, 11</td>
<td>6, 11</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
