



## FOR MORE INFORMATION

Additional information on the Grade 8 HPV vaccination program and the vaccine is available online at [ontario.ca/hpv](http://ontario.ca/hpv)

You can call ServiceOntario INFOLine at 1-866-559-4598 (TTY 1-800-387-5559) or the Public Health Unit that serves your daughter's school.



Cervical cancer is the 2nd most deadly cancer in women. Its main cause is the Human Papillomavirus (HPV). Now, with Ontario's Grade 8 vaccination program you can help protect your daughter from this deadly disease. Since 3 out of 4 adults will get some form of HPV in their lifetime, you'll want to make sure your daughter is protected.



LOVE ALONE WON'T PROTECT YOUR GRADE 8 DAUGHTER FROM CERVICAL CANCER

## WHY GRADE 8 GIRLS?

Grade 8 was chosen because the HPV vaccine is most effective if given to girls before they become exposed to HPV. At the same time, girls in Grade 8 are aware of sexually transmitted infections and will be better able to understand the benefits of the vaccine.

## WHAT IS HPV?

The Human Papillomavirus (HPV) is a very common virus transmitted through sexual activity. HPV has been found to cause cervical cancer, some other rare cancers and genital warts. As 3 out of 4 adults will have some form of HPV in their lifetime you'll want to make sure your daughter completes the 3 shots she needs to be protected.

## A MEDICAL ADVANCE

The HPV vaccine is an important medical advancement that makes cervical cancer a preventable disease. With regular Pap screenings for all women and by allowing all Grade 8 girls the opportunity to be vaccinated against HPV, we have a good chance of preventing most cervical cancers in Ontario.

## HOW EFFECTIVE IS THE VACCINE?

Providing your daughter gets all 3 shots of the HPV vaccine series, the HPV vaccine is close to 100 percent effective in protecting against four types of HPV, two of which are responsible for about 70 percent of cervical cancers. The vaccine also provides protection against two types of HPV that are responsible for about 90 percent of genital warts. It is most effective if given before exposure to the virus.

## IS THE VACCINE SAFE FOR MY CHILD?

The vaccine has been approved by Health Canada, the authority responsible for establishing the safety, efficacy and quality of all drugs and vaccines. Before introducing a new vaccine to Ontario's publicly funded immunization program, the province considers the needs of Ontarians, the advice of several immunization expert groups and the safety, efficacy, cost and appropriateness of the specific vaccine for possible administration through Ontario's publicly funded programs.

## WILL MY CHILD HAVE A REACTION TO THE VACCINE?

The HPV vaccine has similar side effects to most other available vaccines. These side effects include: redness, tenderness and swelling of the injection site and, less commonly, fever, nausea, dizziness and headache. For more information on less typical reactions, visit [ontario.ca/hpv](http://ontario.ca/hpv)

## DOES THIS VACCINE REPLACE CERVICAL CANCER SCREENING?

Although the 3 HPV shots provide protection against the most common types of HPV infection, it is not a replacement for the Pap test. Regular cervical cancer screening, along with the vaccine, provide the best protection against cervical cancer.

## THE HPV VACCINE IS SOMETHING YOU CAN DO FOR YOUR DAUGHTER

Cervical cancer is a serious disease that affects far too many women in Ontario. The HPV vaccination will help protect your daughter from this terrible disease. Protection from cervical cancer is something you can do for your daughter's future health. Make sure she completes the HPV vaccine series at school.

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