



# Monthly Immunization Update

January 2026

Dear Providers and Partners,

The purpose of this newsletter is to deliver quick and meaningful updates to support our providers in a variety of vaccine settings and, maintain our connection with all of you. We welcome your questions and comments. Please feel free to share this newsletter with your colleagues. Thank you!

## *Cervical Cancer Awareness Month*

January is Cervical Cancer Month, an ideal chance for World Health Organization and partners to raise awareness of cervical cancer and vaccination against human papillomavirus (HPV), the main cause of cervical cancer. Together, we can strive to end cervical cancer within a few generations.

This year, Cervical Cancer Awareness month aims to highlight the importance of increasing access to HPV vaccines, regular screening, and state-of-the-art treatment for cervical cancer in its early stages. Our shared objective is to dramatically reduce the occurrence of cervical cancer by 2030 and to eliminate the disease as a public health problem by 2120.

**Get informed:** Find out the facts about HPV and cervical cancer, including what signs to look out for. Help educate other women in your life too.

**Get Screened:** Cervical Cancer screening typically starts at 30 years of age and is repeated regularly.

**Get vaccinated:** The HPV vaccine is given in 1 or 2 doses that should begin when a girl is aged 9-14 years.

### **Prevention and treatment of cervical cancer:**

All girls aged 9–14 years should be vaccinated against HPV. This protects against HPV infection, which can lead to the development of cervical cancer and other HPV-related cancers. HPV vaccines are safe and are given to young girls in a single dose.

Timely screening is essential. If cervical cancer is detected early, it is highly treatable. It is important to have regular screening from the age of 30 years to check for HPV, which can cause cervical cancer. Women who test negative for HPV should get screened again every 5 to 10 years.



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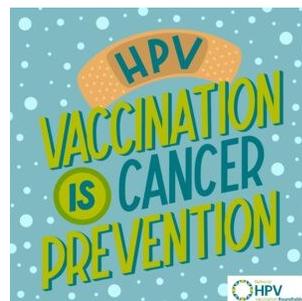
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Women living with HIV should be screened for HPV every 3 years from the 25 years of age. The global strategy promotes a minimum of 2 lifetime screenings, with a high-performance HPV test by 35 years of age and another by 45 years of age.

For more information please visit the [World Health Organization](http://www.who.int) webpage.

## Tips and Tools for Improving HPV Vaccination

- **Recommend HPV vaccine using the presumptive/announcement approach.**
  - **Use a statement rather than a question:** “Your child is due for the HPV vaccine today to help protect against cancers caused by HPV. We’ll give that shot at the end of the visit.” A recent study demonstrated the effectiveness of this strategy, and the CDC has found that healthcare provider recommendation is the single best predictor of vaccination. See CDC’s [tip sheet \(PDF\)](#) on answering common questions from parents.
  - **Use the “HPV vaccine is cancer prevention”** message, because parents identify cancer prevention as important in their decision to vaccinate their children.
    - “HPV vaccine is important because it prevents cancer. That is why I recommend that your daughter/son be vaccinated today.” Emphasize your belief in the importance of the HPV vaccine.
- **Recommend the HPV vaccine series starting at age 9** to give families ample time to finish the series. Providers who start recommending HPV vaccine at ages 9 and 10 have had high success in ensuring kids are fully protected.



For more tips and tools for improving HPV vaccination please visit the [EZIZ](#) website.

### Announcements:

- Ventura County Public Health’s Immunization Program would like to wish you a Happy New Year!
- The Vaccines for Children (VFC) Program’s Annual Recertification is here! Recertification is a federal requirement that must be completed annually by enrolled providers to continue receiving publicly funded vaccines. New providers that enrolled prior to Recertification launch will also be expected to complete 2026 VFC Recertification. Providers will have until the end of January 2026 to complete the recertification process.

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We are on the web!

<https://vchca.org/immunization-program>

or follow us on

