

7

IS THE VACCINE SAFE?

- HPV vaccine is safe to use and all available safety data of HPV vaccines do not suggest any safety concern.

WHO SHOULD NOT GET VACCINATED?

8

- Confirmed Allergy to yeast or other components of the vaccine
- Confirmed anaphylactic reaction to previous dose
- Pregnancy or lactation
- Fever or acutely unwell

9

I HAVE BEEN VACCINATED. DO I NEED TO GET CERVICAL CANCER SCREENING DONE?

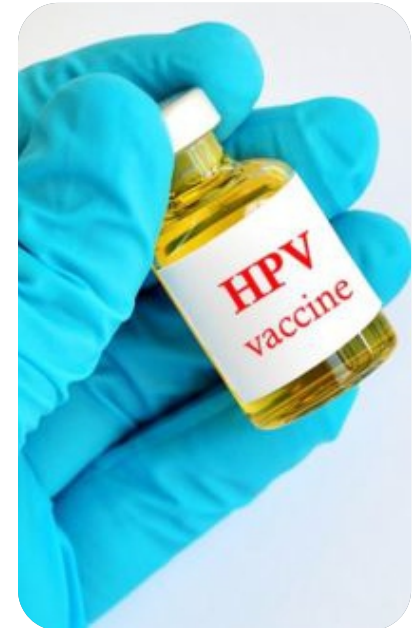
- It is recommended that women who have had the vaccine will still need to go for cervical screening.
- The vaccine will prevent around 80% of cervical cancer cases, but screening is still needed to pick up any other cervical abnormalities.

1. Singh A, Kujur A. Changing trends in genital cancer. Int J Reprod Contracept Obstet Gynecol 2017;6:850-5.
2. Sankaranarayanan R, Bhatta N, Basu P. Current global status & impact of human papillomavirus vaccination: Implications for India. Indian J Med Res.2016; 144: 169-80.
3. Kaarthigeyan. Cervical cancer in India and HPV vaccination. Indian J Med Paediatr Oncol. 2012 ;33(1): 7-12.
4. Global Advisory Committee on Vaccine Safety. Brief report on the June 2016 meeting; Update on HPV vaccine safety, October 2017.



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HPV VACCINE



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

CERVICAL CANCER IS A LEADING CAUSE OF CANCER DEATHS IN INDIA WITH APPROXIMATELY 67, 477 DEATHS REPORTED ANNUALLY FROM CERVICAL CANCER IN INDIA ALONE (1)

1

WHAT IS HPV?

- Human papillomavirus (HPV) is a sexually transmitted virus .More than 70% of unvaccinated people will get it
- HPV lives on the skin in and around the whole genital area, so using condoms does not provide complete protection from HPV.
- There are many different types of HPV. Most HPV infections do not cause any symptoms and get better on their own.
- In India approximately 80% of cervical cancers are linked with infection due to HPV 16 and 18 (2)

"THE HPV VACCINE IS FOR THE PRIMARY PREVENTION OF CERVICAL CANCER"

IF I HAVE HPV INFECTION, DOES THAT MEAN I HAVE CERVICAL CANCER?

2

- About 6.6% of Indian women in the general population have HPV infection at any given time. (3)
- About 75% of sexually active individuals harbor at least one HPV type.
- Most of the time, HPV infection does not cause any manifestations and is self-limited.
- Risk of HPV infection can be reduced by an HPV type-specific targeted vaccine.

WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION RECOMMENDS- HPV VACCINE IS BEST GIVEN TO ADOLSCENT GIRLS BETWEEN 9 AND 14 YEARS

3

WHICH HPV VACCINES ARE AVAILABLE?

- In India two HPV vaccines are available presently which are globally licensed:
- Quadrivalent vaccine (GardasilTM, Merck Inc.) : Protective against strains 6,11,16,18
- Bivalent (CervarixTM, GlaxoSmith Kline, Ltd.) : Protective against strains 16,18

WHAT IS THE IDEAL TIME TO BE VACCINATED?

4

- Girls aged 9-14 years of age should receive two doses of HPV vaccine at least six months apart.
- To give you the best protection, the vaccine should be given before you become sexually active.

If you are sexually active you should still have the vaccine.

5

WHAT IF I HAVE NOT HAD MY FIRST HPV VACCINE BY THE AGE OF 15?

- If you have not had any HPV vaccine before you are 15 years old you will need three doses.
- The second dose will be given around a month after the first dose, and a final dose is given around six months after the first dose.

I MISSED MY VACCINATION, CAN I STILL HAVE IT?

6

- Yes. If you missed either of your vaccinations at school, you can have them up to your 26th birthday.
- If you are above 25 years and sexually active there is reduced efficacy of HPV vaccine.
- It is important to be screened for cervical cancer.

"THE HPV VACCINE IS SAFE AND DOES NOT CAUSE SERIOUS SIDE EFFECTS"(4)