

# You can protect your child today from getting HPV-related cancers tomorrow.

There is a strong weapon to prevent several types of cancer in children: the HPV (human papillomavirus) vaccine. Many HPV-related cancers can be prevented with the HPV vaccination.

Questions you may have:

## When does my child need this vaccine?

It is best to be given when your child is 11 or 12 years of age, but it can be given as early as nine years of age.

## Why should it be given at this age?

This is the age when the vaccine will work the best because preteens have a better immune response to the vaccine than older teens do.

## How many shots does my child need?

The HPV vaccine is given in three shots over the course of six months. All three shots should be completed by the child's thirteenth birthday.

## Is the vaccine safe?

According to the Centers for Disease Control, the HPV vaccine has been carefully studied by scientific experts. This is not a new vaccine, and for years, the HPV vaccine has been shown to be very effective and safe. Like other shots, side effects can happen, but most are mild—primarily pain or redness in the arm. These side effects should go away quickly. The HPV vaccine has not been associated with any long-term side effects.

Talk to your child's doctor today. Protect your child now for a healthier tomorrow.

The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends HPV vaccines for both males and females.

Don't worry about paying for the HPV vaccine. **It is fully covered.** Call the CDPHP member services department at the number on your ID card if you have benefit questions.

Please visit [www.myonlinewellness.com](http://www.myonlinewellness.com) and use the search term "HPV" to learn more.

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**A plan for life.**