



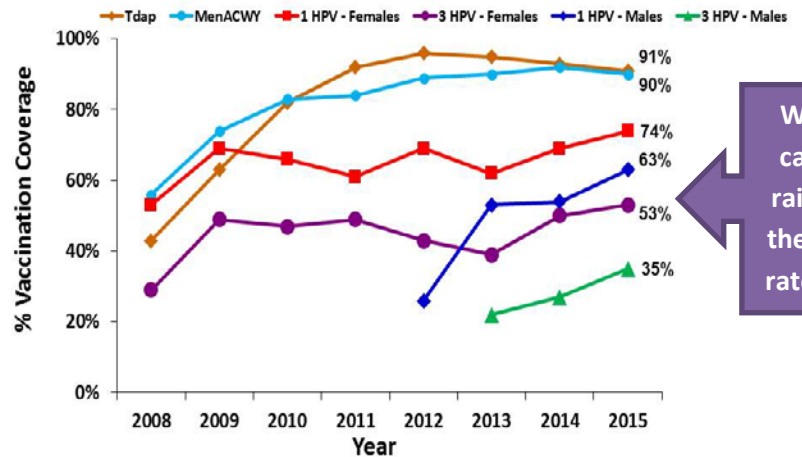
# Massachusetts HPV Initiative:

Raising HPV Immunization Rates to Prevent HPV-Related Cancers

## WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT HPV AND HPV-RELATED CANCERS

- Approximately 79 million people in the US are infected with HPV, and approximately 14 million people in the US will become newly infected with HPV each year.
- The current number of **cancers attributable to HPV is rising with an estimated 30,700 each year.**
- The 9vHPV vaccine has the potential to prevent 92% of the HPV-attributable cancers.
- Cervical cancer is the most common HPV-associated cancer among women and oropharyngeal cancers are the most common among men.

## Adolescent Vaccination Coverage, Massachusetts, NIS, 13-17 year olds, 2008 – 2015



Note: For the purposes of comparability to 2014 estimates, 2013 estimates were revised by retrospectively applying the revised 2014 provider data definition to the 2013 NIS teen data and as a result, differ from those previously published.

NIS Data, CDC



We can raise these rates!

## THE CURRENT PROBLEM

Even though the HPV vaccine can prevent cancer, immunization rates remain very low among female and male adolescents in our state. Missed opportunities for HPV vaccination may result in serious consequences. The CDC, AAP and AAFP recommend that **all** 11-12 year-olds receive HPV, meningococcal, and Tdap vaccines at the same time.

## WHAT CAN PROVIDERS DO?

The most significant factor in parents' decision to vaccinate their children with HPV vaccine is a strong, routine recommendation from the child's healthcare provider. Research shows that simply changing the wording used to introduce the HPV vaccine makes a tremendous difference.

## HELPFUL STRATEGIES

- Talk about HPV vaccination as **cancer prevention**. Cancer prevention is important to parents so remind them that certain HPV types can cause not only cervical cancer, but also anal, penile, vaginal, vulvar, and oropharyngeal cancers.
- Recommend the HPV vaccine **the same way and on the same day** as other vaccines.

“Now that your child is 11, they are due for three vaccines that are really important for all kids their age. They will help protect against meningitis, HPV cancers, and pertussis. We will be giving these at the end of the visit today.”

## OTHER RESOURCES

CDC You are the Key to Cancer Prevention Clinician Website: <http://www.cdc.gov/hpv/hcp/>

MA Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics (MCAAP) HPV Website: <http://mcaap.org/immunization-hpv/>

Contact Rebecca Vanucci ([rebecca.vanucci@state.ma.us](mailto:rebecca.vanucci@state.ma.us)), MDPH Immunization Outreach Coordinator, for more information.