

PROJECT DIRECTOR

Lorena Teran, PhD, MPH
Institute for Clinical and Translational Science
University of California, Irvine

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Clinica Medica Familiar Share Our Selves

PROJECT TEAM

Arda Arjian, MPH
Sarah Marr
Enedina Sepuveda
Marielisa Hecht
Sarah Gonzalez
Alvin Chan
Jorge De la Cruz
Francisco Espita
Paula Gonzales

PHOTOGRAPHER

Gilberto Cardenas

GRAPHIC DESIGN

Christine Lee

SPECIAL THANKS TO

Irina Todorov, MD Frank Zaldivar, PhD Bertha Gonzalez, DO Kate Xie

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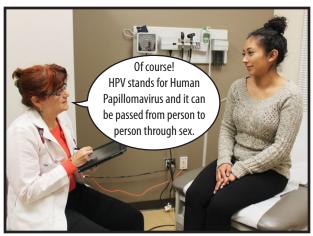






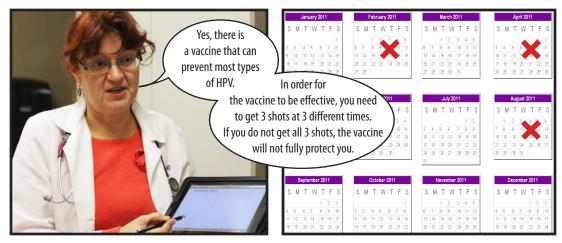
Later at the doctor's office...



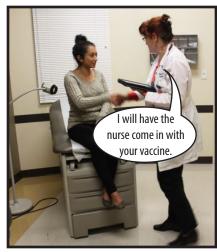


















































an ounce of **PREVENTION** is better than a pound of cure.

the end.

H P QUESTIONS & ANSWERS



What is HPV?



Human papilloma virus (also called HPV) is the most common sexually transmitted infection (STI). There are more than 40 HPV types that can infect the genital areas of males and females. These HPV types can also infect the mouth and throat. Most people who become infected with HPV do not even know they have it.



How do people get HPV?

HPV is passed through genital-to-genital contact, most often during vaginal and anal sex. HPV can be passed on even when the infected partner has no signs or symptoms.



What are the potential health problems associated with HPV?

In 90% of cases, the body's immune system clears HPV naturally within 2 years. However, when HPV infections do not clear, they can cause **cervical cancer** and **genital warts**.



How does HPV cause cervical cancer or genital warts?

HPV can cause normal cells on infected skin to turn abnormal. Most of the time, you cannot see or feel these changes!

H P QUESTIONS & ANSWERS





How common is HPV?

Some studies suggest that an estimated 15% of men and women between the ages of 15 and 49 are currently infected with genital HPV.



How can people prevent HPV?

Vaccines can protect males and females against some of the common types of HPV that can lead to disease and cancer. These vaccines are given in 3 shots. It is important to get all 3 doses to get the best protection. Vaccines are recommended for males and females 11-26 years old.



Does using a condom prevent HPV?

Condoms may lower the risk of HPV, but HPV can infect areas that are not covered by a condom. To be most effective, condoms should be used with every sex act, from start to finish.



Is there a test for HPV?

Females should have regular Pap smears and cervical cancer screenings conducted by a doctor.

There is no general test to check your HPV "status" for males and females.