

How can I protect myself or my child from the potential harms related to high-risk HPV?

Human papillomavirus, usually called HPV, is a viral infection with many different types. These infections are transmitted through skin-to-skin, or sexual contact.

For most people, the best way to protect yourself against HPV is to get immunized against the highest-risk types of HPV!

Like other vaccines, the HPV vaccine teaches the body to get rid of specific HPV viruses before it can infect the body's cells.

The best age to start the vaccine series is before one becomes sexually active.

In the NWT, this vaccine is typically provided in grades 4 to 6, with a minimum age of 9 years. This is the perfect time to teach the body's immune system to make antibodies against HPV.

The HPV vaccination can prevent cancer and HPV-related warts.

The HPV vaccine is FREE!

for everyone between the ages of 9 and 26!

Talk to your healthcare provider about immunization against HPV, as well as other ways you can protect yourself from the virus.

Together we can reduce HPV-related cancers in our communities.

#ForMyFuture



I did it for my **FUTURE!**



The HPV vaccine is cancer prevention.

What is Human papillomavirus (HPV) and why getting vaccinated matters?

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Government of
Northwest Territories

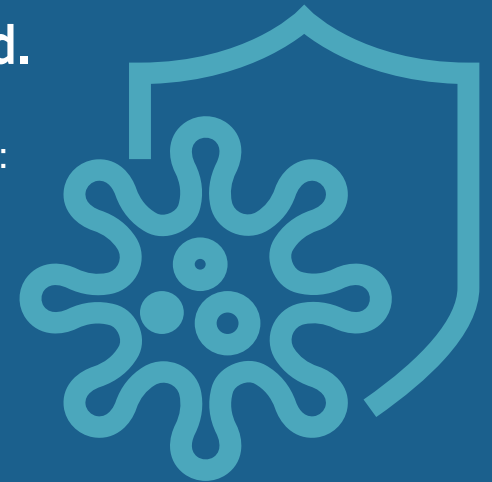
What is HPV?

Human papillomavirus, usually called HPV, is a viral infection with many different types. These infections are transmitted through skin-to-skin, or sexual contact.

If high-risk types of HPV are not cleared by the body's immune system and stay for a long period of time, the person's risk of developing cancer is increased.

HPV can cause six types of cancer, including cancer of the:

1. **Cervix**, 2. **Anus** 3. **Mouth and throat**
4. **Penis** 5. **Vagina**, and 6. **Vulva**



Different types of HPV



Unfortunately, most people who have a high-risk, cancer-causing type of HPV will not show any signs or symptoms until it starts to cause serious health problems.



Symptoms and HPV

Most types of HPV cause no symptoms and will go away on their own with the help of our immune system, just like a cold or flu virus.



Low-risk HPV

Some low-risk types can cause warts on the area affected by the virus.



High-risk HPV

There are 12 high-risk HPV types which can cause cancer if they stay in the body for a long period of time.

DID YOU KNOW?

1. HPV is one of the most common sexually transmitted infections (STIs).
2. 3 out of 4 Canadians will be infected with an HPV virus during their lifetime, however, most people may not even know it.

