

Protect your preteen with the HPV vaccine

- Have you or anyone you know ever had an abnormal Pap smear or needed procedures to treat cervical dysplasia (pre-cancerous changes)? *These are scary situations for any woman.*
- Have you known anyone with cervical cancer? *It is horrible and painful.*
- Have you heard about genital warts? *Ugly.*

A virus called HPV causes all of these problems!

Facts about HPV

- What is HPV?
 - HPV is short for *human papilloma virus*. It is the most common sexually transmitted virus in the United States. This is a group of over 150 related viruses. Of these, about 3 out of 4 (75%) cause warts on the skin—most often arms, chest, hands and feet. The other 25% cause warts in the mouth, vagina, and anus (where it is moist.)
- The HPV vaccine helps prevent the infections which cause 70% of all cervical cancers and pre-cancers. Also, helps against 2 types that cause 90% of genital warts.
- HPV can cause cervical cancer. 2nd leading cause of cancer deaths in the world. In U.S., about 10,000 get cervical cancer each year and about 4,000 are expected to die from

❖ **The HPV vaccine is a set of 3 shots given over 6 months.**

❖ **It is highly recommended for both boys and girls between the ages of 9 and 13.**

❖ **The vaccine is FREE with your Buckeye Health Plan coverage.**

[Click here for an informational video on the HPV Vaccine](#)

Please call your child's health professional today for an appointment!