

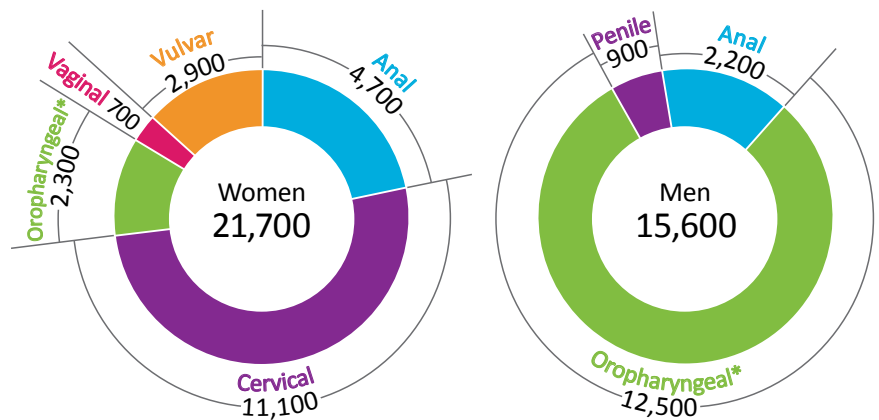
# The HPV Vaccine: A Safe and Effective Way to Protect Your Child From Cancer

**37,300 Cancers Are Caused by HPV Each Year**

That equates to one person every 15 minutes, every day, all year long.

## Human papillomavirus (HPV) is very common.

- 13 million Americans are diagnosed with HPV each year. More than half are between the ages of 15 and 24.



\*Cancer in the back of the throat, including the base of the tongue and tonsils

## The HPV vaccine is highly effective.

- The vaccine protects against the most common cancer-causing types of HPV.
- Large studies before the vaccine was licensed showed that it was:
  - Nearly 100% effective in preventing cervical, vaginal and vulvar precancers
  - 75% effective in preventing anal precancers
- More recent studies showed that it:
  - Decreased the risk of cervical cancer by 88% among girls and women who were vaccinated before age 17
  - Reduced oral and oropharyngeal HPV infection by more than 82%
- HPV infections targeted by the vaccine have decreased by more than 80% among teen girls and young women since the vaccine was introduced.
- In men age 21 and younger, the vaccine has been shown to decrease cases of genital warts by 82%.
- The evidence so far shows that protection is long-lasting. HPV vaccination could prevent more than 90% of HPV-caused cancers from ever developing.

## The HPV vaccine is safe.

- Health experts studied the vaccine before it was licensed. They found that serious health issues after vaccination were rare and rates were similar to people who did not get the vaccine at all.
- More than 270 million doses have been given worldwide since 2006, when the vaccine first came out.
- Health experts continue to monitor the safety of the vaccine. In over 17 years, no serious safety concerns have been linked to vaccination.
- The most common side effects reported are mild and short-lived. They include:
  - Injection site pain (affecting about 8 in 10 people)
  - Redness or swelling at the injection site (about 1 in 4)
  - Low-grade fever (about 1 in 10)
  - Nausea and headache (about 1 in 3)
  - Dizziness or fainting: Dizziness and fainting are more common among teens than the general population following any vaccination.
- It is safe to receive the HPV vaccine at the same time as other vaccines. Your child's visit to receive the Tdap, meningococcal, flu and COVID-19 vaccines is a great time to vaccinate them against HPV.

## The HPV vaccine could save your child's life.

Ask your child's health care provider about it today.

Make sure your child is vaccinated before age 13, when the vaccine works best.

**NYC**  
Health