## SPREAD #HPVFACTS

# **THINGS** A PARENT NEEDS TO KNOW ABOUT HUMAN PAPILLOMAVIRUS (HPV).

The more we learn about health risks for our children, the more we can do to help protect them as they grow up. **That's why it's so important to get the facts about HPV.** 



### HPV CAN BE SERIOUS.

HPV CAN CAUSE CERTAIN **PRECANCERS**, **CANCERS**, AND OTHER DISEASES.

These can develop very slowly and may not even occur until later in life.



## HPV AFFECTS BOTH GENDERS.

Both males and females are affected by HPV. Exposure to the virus can happen with any kind of adolescent experimentation that involves genital contact with someone who has HPV intercourse isn't necessary, but it is the most common way to get the virus.

#### IT'S IMPORTANT TO HELP PROTECT Children before they are at risk.

#### **BEING INFORMED** IS THE FIRST STEP IN HELPING TO PROTECT AGAINST HPV.



The persons depicted in these materials are models being used for illustrative purposes only.



#### YOU **CAN'T TELL** IF SOMEONE HAS HPV.

Many people who have HPV **don't even know it** because HPV often has no signs or symptoms.

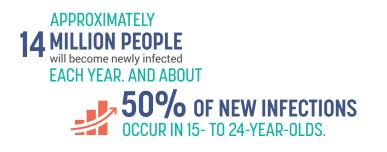
## THERE IS **NO TREATMENT** FOR HPV INFECTION.

HOWEVER, THERE ARE WAYS TO HELP PROTECT YOUR CHILD FROM HPV-RELATED CANCERS AND DISEASES.

# EDUCATION IS THE FIRST STEP IN HELPING TO PROTECT YOUR KIDS FROM CERTAIN HPV-RELATED CANCERS AND DISEASES LATER IN LIFE.



You've read some of the surprising facts about HPV. **The statistics below may surprise you even more.** 



#### FOR MOST PEOPLE, HPV CLEARS ON ITS OWN.

But, for others who don't clear the virus, it could cause certain precancers, cancers, and other diseases.



Although there are more than 40 genital types of HPV, only certain types can cause

#### **HPV-RELATED CANCERS AND DISEASES:**

**ANAL CANCER** 

**GENITAL WARTS** 

**Ť Ť** 

Ť

CERVICAL CANCER VULVAR CANCER VAGINAL CANCER

## WHAT SHOULD I KNOW?

- HUMAN PAPILLOMAVIRUS is a virus that can cause certain cancers and diseases in both males and females.
- Exposure to HPV can happen with any kind of adolescent experimentation that involves genital contact with someone who has HPV intercourse isn't necessary, but it is the most common way to get the virus.
- Because HPV often has no visible signs or symptoms, anyone can get the virus or pass the virus on without even knowing it. And there's no way to predict who will or won't clear the virus.

## WHAT CAN I DO ABOUT IT?

**Protection starts with knowing the facts.** Now that you're armed with more information, talk to your child's doctor to see if vaccination is right for your child.

For more information, visit **HPV.COM** 





#### PROVIDED AS AN EDUCATIONAL RESOURCE BY MERCK.

Copyright © 2015 Merck Sharp & Dohme Corp., a subsidiary of Merck & Co., Inc. All rights reserved. Printed in USA Minimum 10% Recycled Paper 5 VACC-1150947-0000 10/15 SPREAD #HPVFACTS