

## How can I vaccinate my child against HPV?

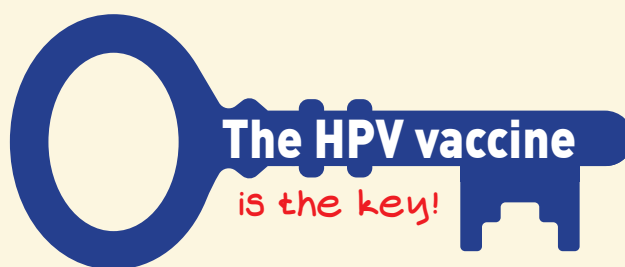
The vaccine is provided **free** of charge as follows:

- For children aged 9–13 years and 364 days
- For children aged 14–18 years and 364 days (for a transitional period of two years, from March 1, 2026 to February 29, 2028)
- Individuals aged 18–26 years with immunodeficiency (including HIV infection)

GESY (General Healthcare System) beneficiaries can be vaccinated through their Personal Doctors/ Paediatricians and through the Ministry of Health Vaccination Centers. Non-beneficiaries of the General Healthcare System GESY can be vaccinated only through Vaccination Centers as listed below.

DISTRICT	VACCINATION CENTERS	TELEPHONE
NICOSIA	MAKARIOS III HOSPITAL	22405071
	ADULT & TRAVELERS VACCINATION CENTER, LATSIA	22801609
LARNACA	LARNACA GENERAL HOSPITAL	24818047
LIMASSOL	OLD LIMASSOL HOSPITAL	25829031
PAFOS	PAPHOS GENERAL HOSPITAL	26803246
	POLIS CHRYSOCHOUS HEALTH CENTER (weekly every Tuesday))	26821825
FAMAGUSTA	FAMAGUSTA HEALTH CENTER	23200063

“I would do anything to protect my child... wouldn't you?”



Edition Number: 3  
Publication Date: 1/26



REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS  
MINISTRY OF HEALTH  
Medical and Public Health Services

# HPV

(Human papillomavirus)



## What is HPV infection?

HPV infection is a viral infection and it is the most common sexually transmitted infection worldwide.

## How is it transmitted?

HPV is transmitted through direct contact, mainly through sexual contact with an infected partner, even without visible lesions, and more rarely from an infected mother to her child during childbirth.

## What are the symptoms of HPV infection?

Most people infected with HPV do not have symptoms and the infection resolves on its own without any intervention. However, in some cases, HPV infection persists and leads to symptoms and/or complications.

## What are the complications of HPV infection?

HPV infection may lead to:

- Genital and anal warts
- Precancerous lesions and cancer of the cervix, vagina, vulva, anus, penis, and oropharynx

## How can someone protect themselves from HPV?

The use of condoms reduces the risk of infection but does not eliminate it completely. The only effective way to prevent HPV infection is vaccination.

## When is vaccination recommended?

HPV vaccination should be administered to girls and boys before the onset of sexual activity. This ensures the best possible immunity against HPV so that adolescents are protected when they begin their sexual life.

However, vaccination is also recommended for women and men after the onset of sexual activity, to protect against HPV types they have not already been exposed to.

## Why should I vaccinate my son if HPV mainly causes cervical cancer?

HPV affects both women and men. In addition to cervical cancer, it is responsible for cancers of the penis, anus, mouth, and throat, as well as genital warts in both sexes. Vaccinating boys at a pre-adolescent age protects them directly and also contributes indirectly to protecting their future partners.

## Does the HPV vaccine cause serious side effects?

Side effects are mild. The most common include pain, swelling, and redness at the injection site, headache, nausea, and low-grade fever. Very rarely, dizziness or fainting may occur. No serious side effects have been reported.