

# VACCINE FACTS

## Human Papillomavirus (HPV) (Gardasil®9)

Gardasil®9 protects against infections caused by nine common types of Human Papilloma Virus (HPV): 6, 11, 16, 18, 31, 33, 45, 52, 58. HPV infections are the most common sexually transmitted infection. Most infections occur without symptoms and resolve without any treatment. HPV can cause genital warts, cervical cancer, anogenital cancer as well as cancers of the head and neck.

### Who should get this vaccine? <sup>1</sup>

This vaccine is offered to all grade 7 students as part of the School Immunization Program.

Students have until the end of grade 12 to complete the series.

HPV vaccine started to be publicly funded for male students in grade 7 the 2016/2017 school year (those born in 2004 and later). These boys also have until end of grade 12 to complete their series.

This vaccine is also publicly funded (free) for men who have sex with men (MSM) up to 26 years of age. This includes gay, bisexual and trans people who identify as MSM.

This vaccine is also recommended but not publicly funded (free) for:

- All women up to the age of 45 years.
- All men up to the age of 26 years.

### How well does this vaccine work? <sup>1</sup>

#### In women 16-26 years of age:

- Protection against cervical cancer is nearly 100%.
- Protection against genital lesions (e.g. warts) is 95%-99%.

#### In men 16-26 years of age:

- Protection against genital lesions (e.g. warts) is 84%-100%.
- Protection against anogenital cancer is 70%.

### Is there an alternative to this vaccine? <sup>1</sup>

One way a person can protect themselves is through long-term abstinence from sexual contact. Condoms do not provide protection from HPV. Once sexually active, regular pap tests are still recommended to check for changes in the cervix.

Common side effects of this vaccine <sup>1,3</sup>	Rare side effects of this vaccine <sup>1</sup>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Pain in the muscle</li><li>• Swelling</li><li>• Redness</li><li>• Fatigue</li><li>• Headache</li><li>• Fever</li><li>• Nausea</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Anaphylaxis</li></ul>

### Is this vaccine safe?

The risk of a serious reaction or side effect from this vaccine is much less than the risk of HPV. If you experience any side effect worse than what is listed below, please seek medical advice and notify the health unit.

### Who should not receive this vaccine? <sup>1,3</sup>

- Anyone with an allergy to any of the vaccine components or who has had an allergic or anaphylactic reaction to this vaccine.
- Pregnant women.

## What is in this vaccine?<sup>2</sup>

Gardasil®	Gardasil®9	Also found in...
Aluminum	Aluminum	Breast milk, infant formula
L-histidine	L-histidine	Milk, fish
Polysorbate 80	Polysorbate 80	Ice cream
Sodium borate	Sodium borate	Water
Sodium chloride	Sodium chloride	Table salt
Yeast Protein	Yeast Protein	Bread

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please (Gardasil)

### We ask you to:

**Check:** Your child's yellow immunization card or health record.

**Contact:** Your child's family physician or health-care provider to obtain records, or to get missing vaccinations.

**Share:** Visit our website to share your immunization record with us.



#### References:

1. Canadian Immunization Guide. Part 4-Active Vaccines. Ottawa: Public Health Agency of Canada; 2019.
2. Canadian Immunization Guide. Part 1-Key Immunization Information. Table 1: Types and contents of vaccines available for use in Canada. Ottawa: Public Health Agency of Canada; 2019.
3. Moore, D. Your Child's Best Shot (4th Edition). Canadian Paediatric Society, 2015