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THINGS A PARENT NEEDS TO KNOW ABOUT **HPV**



The more we learn about health risks for our children, the more we can do to help protect them as they grow up. It's important to get the facts about Human Papillomavirus (HPV). Let's protect them now against HPV infection when they're older.

1

HPV are small viruses that can have **big consequences.**

2

HPV can cause **genital warts** and certain **pre-cancers** and **cancers.**

HPV-related cancers develop very slowly and may not occur until later in life.⁸

3

HPV infects both **male and females.**

Both males and females are at equal risk of HPV infection. HPV is so common that almost everyone who is sexually active will get HPV infection at some point in their lifetime.⁸ You are most likely to first encounter HPV in your teens or early 20s.⁸ This is why the HPV vaccine is offered in school.⁸ The HPV vaccine is offered in school to protect a person before they're exposed.⁸

4

HPV can be spread even when someone with the virus has **no signs or symptoms.**⁸

5

From September 2019, the **National HPV Immunisation Programme** in Ireland will offer vaccination to all boys and girls in first year of second-level schools.⁸

For more information on HPV, talk to your **Doctor, Nurse or Pharmacist.**

Protect your child against certain HPV-related cancers and diseases later in life.



HPV is so common that almost everyone who is sexually active will get HPV infections at some point in their lifetime.⁸



100 women & 30 men each year in Ireland die from HPV-related cancers⁵

HPV infection is spread through intimate skin-to-skin contact.⁸

From September 2019 the **National HPV Immunisation Programme** will offer vaccination to all boys and girls in first year of second level schools. HPV immunisation is most effective before a person becomes sexually active.⁸

HPV causes almost **5%** of cancers worldwide⁷

Virtually all cases of cervical cancer are caused by HPV⁷. Each year in Ireland approximately **6,500** women require treatment for pre-cancer of the cervix.⁸



HPV infection usually clears up by itself. When HPV infection doesn't clear up by itself, it may become a problem as it could lead to cancers⁸

Every year there are **1,200** cases of genital warts in Ireland⁹

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