



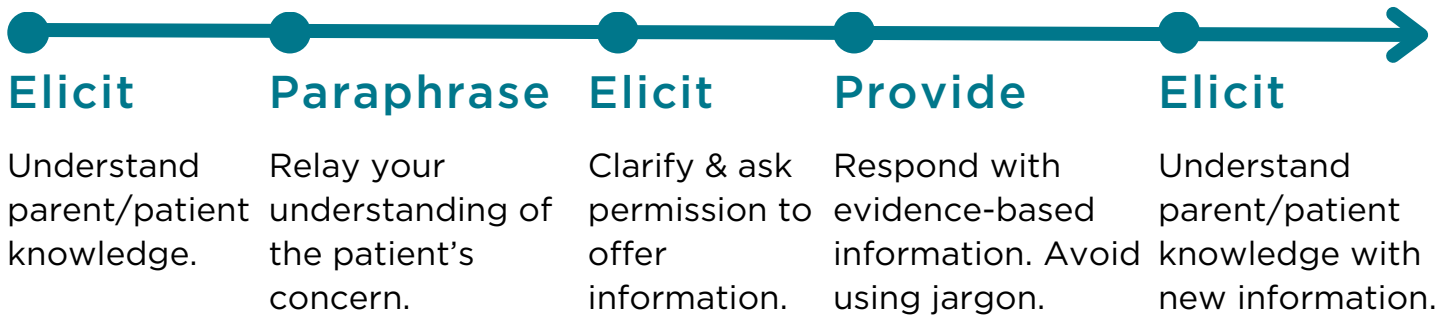
Communicating about HPV vaccination to Adults and Teens



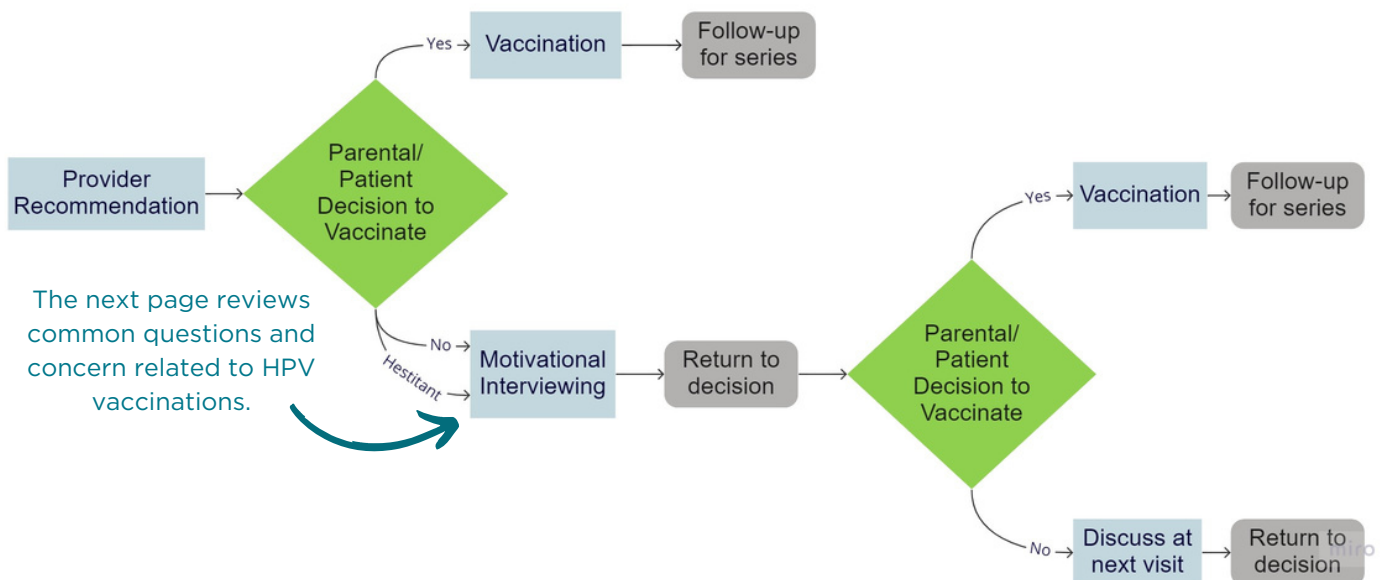
A strong, presumptive provider recommendation is a key determinant of HPV vaccination.

Example: I see that [patient] just turned 11. Since you're here, that would be a great time to get the vaccine recommended at that age. These are Tdap, HPV, and meningococcal vaccines.
What questions do you have?

Motivational interviewing can then be used.



Cancer prevention starts with parents and healthcare providers.



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Evidence & Suggested Responses to Common Concerns

Topic	Evidence	Provider Response
Safety	Proven to be safe since 2006 More than 135 million doses	"This vaccine is one of the most studied medications on the market. The HPV vaccine is safe, just like the other vaccines given at this age" (Shah et al., 2019).
Side Effects	Common side effects are swelling, soreness, pain, dizziness, syncope, headache, and nausea. There was a 15% decrease in reported adverse events from 2015 to 2018.	"All vaccines can cause mild reactions, like a sore arm. But I wouldn't expect to see anything serious" (Shah et al., 2019).
Effectiveness	Since the introduction of the HPV vaccine, HPV infections have greatly reduced among female teenagers and young adults. A UK study found a decrease in the incidence of cervical cancer and CIN3 in vaccinated women.	Studies have shown the HPV vaccine to be very effective in reducing the numbers of HPV related infections, pre-cancers, and cancers.
Sexual Activity	Studies have repeatedly highlighted that HPV vaccination is not associated with increased sexual activity or risky sexual behavior. HPV vaccination does not increase the likelihood of getting pregnant or STIs.	"This really isn't about sex. The HPV vaccine is about preventing cancer," and to do so we need to vaccinate children before they become sexually active (Shah et al., 2019).
Gender Neutral	HPV can cause penile, anal, and oropharyngeal cancers (OPCs) in men. OPCs in men are now more common than cervical cancer in women. In addition, more than three-quarters of OPCs were found in men.	"HPV infections don't care if you're a boy or girl. The virus can cause cancer and many other diseases in both women and men" (Shah et al., 2019).
Not Required for School Entry	Research shows that the vaccine is more effective when given between the ages of 9 and 12 because the child has a stronger immune system at this earlier age before adolescence.	"School requirements don't always keep up with medical science. The HPV vaccine is an important vaccine that can prevent many cancers and is most effective when given at this age" (Shah et al., 2019).
Cost	For more information about the Texas Vaccines for Children Program, please visit: https://www.dshs.state.tx.us/immunize/tvfc/	The Texas VFC program allows uninsured and underinsured boys and girls between the ages of 9 and 18 have access to the HPV vaccine at no cost to the patient.
COVID-19 vaccine + HPV vaccine	The AAP and AAFP recommend that childhood and adolescent vaccinations can be given with the COVID-19 vaccine.	It is safe to administer the COVID-19 and other vaccines on the same day.
Wait until later	36,000 HPV-associated cancers every year Evidence indicates that children vaccinated at the appropriate age can be protected prior to exposure. 90% Of these cancers can be prevented with HPV vaccination	It is important for your child to get HPV vaccine because we know that vaccinating is more effective at a younger age and they require fewer doses. Our goal is to vaccinate before the risk of exposure occurs.

Resources

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