Gardasil Vaccine Information

The HPV vaccine (Gardasil 9) protects against Human Papilloma Virus, and it is available at Health Services for males and females.

The vaccine is highly effective against four types of HPV:

For females this includes the types that cause most cervical, vaginal, vulvar, anal and oropharyngeal cancers, and genital warts. Females should receive the vaccine even if they have a history of genital warts, cervical dysplasia, or abnormal pap smears that have been evaluated or treated because it will still cover those types not yet infected with. The vaccine does NOT protect against all types of HPV. Pap testing (cervical cancer screening) is still needed beginning at age 21.

For males this includes genital warts and penile, anal and oropharyngeal cancers.

The HPV vaccine (Gardasil 9) is recommended for females and males ages 9–26. Ideally, the vaccine is given to individuals who have not become sexually active, BUT it is still recommended for sexually active individuals who have not been vaccinated.

About HPV

HPV is a very common virus that spreads between people when they have sexual contact. Most sexually active people in the United States will have HPV at some time in their lives. There are more than 40 types of HPV that are passed through sexual contact. Condoms can help lower the risk of developing HPV-related disease, but HPV can infect areas that are not covered by condoms, so condoms may not fully protect against HPV.

About the Vaccine

The vaccine is administered as 3 separate injections, with the second shot given 1-2 months after the first injection and the third dose 6 months after the first injection. The series of doses costs approximately $561 ($187/dose). Talk with your medical providers to find out if you are a candidate to receive the vaccine. Then contact your health insurance company to find out if they will cover the vaccine if given at Health Services.

Note: The Student Health Benefit Plan (SHBP) does cover the vaccine given at Health Services.

When you contact your health insurance company, ask the following questions since benefits vary among insurance plans and companies:

1. Is the Gardasil vaccination covered by my insurance plan?

2. Will my insurance plan cover the vaccination if I receive them at the UNH Health Services in Durham, NH? Some insurance companies may only cover the cost of this vaccine if it is administered by your Primary Care Provider (PCP) at home.

3. Will I have a co-payment?

To make an appointment to receive the vaccine or have an exam, contact Health Services at (603) 862-2856