

INTERNATIONAL HPV AWARENESS DAY

Fighting Cervical Cancer Starts with the HPV Vaccine

March 1, 2019 – Did you know almost all cases of cervical cancer are caused by HPV? March 4th is International HPV Awareness Day and District Health Department #10 (DHD#10) wants you to know there's a lot you can do to prevent cervical cancer.

HPV, or human papillomavirus, is the most common STD, and responsible for virtually all cases of cervical cancer. HPV can also cause several other types of cancer, including anal, oral, vaginal, vulvar, and penile cancers. Every year in the US, HPV causes 33,700 cancers in men and women.

The good news? The HPV vaccine works.

- The HPV vaccine, for all genders, can prevent HPV.
- The HPV vaccine can prevent more than 9 out of 10 cases of cervical cancer.

“Vaccinating pre-teens, both girls and boys, at age 11 or 12 ensures they are protected before ever being exposed to the virus,” stated Dr. Jennifer Morse, Medical Director for DHD#10. “Of course, teens and young adults can receive the HPV vaccine if they didn’t get it as pre-teens. Women up to age 26 and men up to age 21 can still get the vaccine.”

In honor of International HPV Awareness Day, DHD#10 encourages:

- Individuals to talk with their health care provider and stay current on cervical cancer screening.
- Women to start getting regular Pap tests at age 21
- Parents to make sure pre-teens (boys and girls) get the HPV vaccine at age 11 or 12

Call 888-217-3904, option #2 to make an appointment at your local DHD#10 office. DHD#10 can bill most insurances to cover the cost of vaccination. Don't let the cost of vaccines prevent you from receiving a vaccination. DHD#10 uses a sliding-fee scale for the cost of vaccine administration.

Additionally, DHD#10 offers a Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Screening Program (BCCCNP). This program can assist you if you need a cervical cancer screening or have an abnormal mammogram or Pap test and your insurance does not completely pay for additional tests. Please visit <http://www.dhd10.org/men-women/cancer-screening/> to see if you are eligible for BCCCNP.

About DHD #10

District Health Department #10 (DHD #10) is Michigan's largest geographical health department, mandated to promote and protect the public from unsafe and hazardous conditions and provide methods of promoting good health and disease prevention. Some of the vital programs provided by DHD #10 include Immunizations, Infectious Disease Control, STI Testing and Counseling, WIC, Maternal Infant Health Program, Healthy Families Northern Michigan, Children's Special Health Services, Hearing and Vision Screening, Family Planning, Cancer Screening, Worksite Wellness, Smoking Cessation, Substance Use Prevention, Chronic Disease Prevention, and Environmental



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Lake
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Newaygo
Oceana
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Health Services. DHD #10 serves Crawford, Kalkaska, Lake, Manistee, Mason, Mecosta, Missaukee, Newaygo, Oceana, and Wexford counties. For more information, visit www.dhd10.org.

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