

CCS Parental Information on HPV

HPV is the most common STI. There were about 43 million HPV infections in 2018, many among people in their late teens and early 20s. There are many different types of HPV. Some types can cause health problems such as cervical cancer and cervical dysplasia.

Cervical Dysplasia: is a term to describe abnormal cells that are present in the cervix. Cervical dysplasia is most commonly caused by the HPV virus. Symptoms include abnormal vaginal discharge, spotting between menstrual periods, bleeding after sexual intercourse, painful sex, and bleeding during menopause. Treatments include cryotherapy, laser ablation, leep procedure, cone biopsy, or hysterectomy.

Cervical cancer: More than 95% of cervical cancers are related to HPV. Cervical cancer symptoms include: abnormal vaginal discharge, spotting between menstrual periods, bleeding after sexual intercourse, painful sex, bleeding during menopause. Treatment includes chemotherapy, surgery, and radiation.

Prevention: There is a vaccine that is available to prevent the HPV virus. Children are recommended to receive this 2 part series at age 11-12. Since the recommendation by the CDC for the HPV vaccine (Gardasil and Cervarix) in 2006 there has been an 88% decrease in HPV and related diseases. The following are possible side effects: pain, redness, or swelling in the arm where the shot was given, fever, dizziness or fainting (fainting after any vaccine, including HPV vaccine, is more common among adolescents than others), headache or feeling tired, nausea, and/or muscle or joint pain.

For more information talk to your child's PCP, call the local health department, or visit cdc.gov.



Currituck County Schools

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