

*Preventing Cervical
Cancer in the next
generation of
women*

Cervical Cancer Vaccination Education and Recommendation Bill

SENATOR LENA TAYLOR & SENATOR BOB WIRCH

In June 2006, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved an HPV vaccine, which could, for the first time in history, eliminate a deadly form of cancer.

Ending Cervical Cancer Legislation:

- Starting in the 2008-09 school year, DHFS will provide **educational materials** about the vaccine to schools and parents/guardians and **recommend** vaccination for sixth grade girls.
The bill does not require the vaccine
- If federal Vaccination For Children (VFC) or state funding is available, DHFS shall provide the vaccine without charge to uninsured or underinsured persons.
The bill does not appropriate funding

*Organizations that
recommended the vaccination:*

- Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices
- Center for Disease Control
- American Cancer Society
- Department of Health and Family Services

*Cervical cancer is the second most common cancer among women worldwide.
Over 70% of cases were linked to the human papillomavirus (HPV).*

Organizations and People Consulted:

- Parents and community members
- Family Research Institute of WI
- UW School of Medicine and Public Health
- WI Association of School Boards
- WI Alliance for Women's Health
- Medical College of WI
- Dept. of Health and Family Services
- WI Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics
- Milwaukee City Health Department
- WI Family Planning & Reproductive Health Assoc.
- WI Academy of Family Physicians.
- WI Public Health Assoc,
- WI Assoc, of Local Health Depts. and Boards
- Planned Parenthood of WI
- WI Medical Society

- In 2007, there will be an estimated 11,100 cases of cervical cancer, resulting in 3,700 deaths.¹
- 50% of women diagnosed with cervical cancer are between 35 & 55 years old, a time of peak family responsibility and economic productivity.²
- Cervical Cancer disproportionately impacts US African American and Hispanic women.³
- The ACIP recommends vaccination as a routine procedure for females aged 11-12 years old as well as a "catch up" vaccination for females aged 13-26 who have not been vaccinated previously.

Please contact Senator Taylor at 266-5810 or Senator Wirch at 267-8979 with any questions about the vaccination or legislation

Cervical Cancer Vaccination

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Cervical Cancer Prevention Bill Overview

RECOMMENDATION:

Beginning in the fall of 2008, information will be provided to parents with a recommendation to vaccinate their children.

PARENTAL CHOICE: This bill recommends the vaccination and provides parents with information to make an educated decision on their own (with no pressure).

INSURANCE: All major insurance companies are planning to cover the vaccination.

ADDITIONAL COVERAGE: If federal Vaccination For Children (VFC) or state funding is available, DHFS shall provide the vaccine without charge to uninsured or underinsured persons.

SUPPORTERS: The medical community played a large part in this process. Milwaukee Public Health, Family Planning and Health Services, and Planned Parenthood are a few that support this bill.

Vaccination Process

The vaccination is given in a three shot series over a six month period. The second shot will be given after two months and the third will be given six months after the first.

Cervical Cancer Vaccine *FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS*

- ***How does the vaccine work to prevent cervical cancer?***

In most cases, HPV goes away without any treatment, but sometimes it causes changes in the cells of a woman's cervix. These changes can cause abnormalities if they are not treated right away.¹ The vaccination prevents four different strains of HPV. Two of these strains, type 16 and 18, are directly linked to precancerous cells. There is also a second vaccination that will be on the market soon, which prevents the two types of HPV that cause cervical cancer.

- ***What are the side effects of the immunization?***

Rare side effects included fever and redness, itching or swelling at the sight of the injection. No serious side effects were found; however, the Center for Disease Control (CDC) and the FDA are monitoring past clinical studies for the long-term effects of the vaccination. Thimerosal and mercury, which may cause side effects, are not present in this vaccination.²

- ***How can we ensure that doctors, schools, and parents are getting the right information about the immunization?***

The bill calls for the Department of Health and Family Services to develop materials that will be available for schools and parents. The materials will identify risks, the relationship between HPV and cervical cancer, and the availability and effectiveness of the shot.

- ***How much does the vaccination cost?***

The vaccination is given in a three shot series that costs \$96 per shot.³ Most girls will be covered by private insurance (64%) or federally funded Vaccines for Children program (34%). The cost to treat HPV and cervical cancer is \$3.9 billion annually.

- ***Can the manufacturer meet the demand of providing this vaccine for so many children?***

Because the implementation of this bill will not be until 2008-2009, manufacturers will be able to meet the projected demand.

- ***Isn't it too soon to recommend this vaccine, since it was only FDA approved last June?***

The FDA, the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) and the CDC have recommended that the immunization be given to girls 11-12 years of age. Their processes for recommendations are some of the most scrutinizing.

- ***Why is the vaccination recommended for girls ages nine to twenty-six?***

Most studies recommend that the shot be given to 11-12 year olds, but can be given at other ages. Because of how the immune system develops, vaccinations are most effective when given to young children. Adolescents are more susceptible to infections, like HPV, increasing our need to vaccinate them early.⁴ Additionally, the shot should be given before sexual activity because it is only effective for women who have not been exposed to HPV, which can be transmitted through general sexual contact, including intercourse.⁵