

7. What are the common side effects?

Headache, dizziness, nausea, fever are the most common clinical side effects. Soreness, swelling and redness may also occur at the injection site.

8. When can I get pregnant after the whole vaccination procedure?

At least one month after the whole vaccination procedure is preferred.

9. How long does the vaccine last?

The vaccine is effective for about 10 years upon completion of the whole vaccination procedure.

10. Is screening still necessary after HPV vaccination?

HPV vaccination can only protect against the HPV types included in the vaccines and is not 100% effective. Annual gynaecological check-up is recommended.

11. What is the timeline for HPV vaccination?

According to the recommendations of pharmaceutical companies, the most common HPV vaccination should be completed within a year. The three doses of vaccine can be given within four months to a year. It is usually completed in six months. The second dose can be given at least one to two months after the first dose, while the third dose should be received at least three to four months after the second dose.

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Human Papillomavirus (HPV) and HPV Vaccine



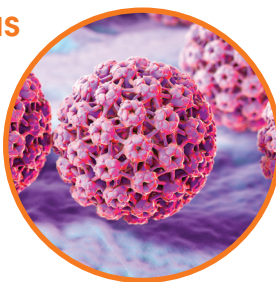
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Human Papillomavirus (HPV)

Human Papillomaviruses (HPV) can cause cervical cancer, vulvar and vaginal cancer, anal cancer, head and neck cancer, throat cancer as well as genital warts.



HPV Vaccine

HPV vaccine (also known as cervical cancer vaccine) is a prophylactic vaccine that can prevent cervical cancer as well as other HPV-related cancers or diseases. All registered HPV vaccines in Hong Kong are prescription-only, and should be used only after clinical assessment by registered doctors.

According to the Scientific Committee on HPV Vaccine Preventable Diseases under the Centre for Health Protection, the 9-valent HPV vaccine could prevent up to 90% of cervical cancer.

Vaccine	9-valent HPV
Against HPV	HPV 6,11,16,18, 31,33,45,52,58
Indicated age	From the age of 9 (Both female & male)
Prevention of diseases caused by related HPV	Cervical cancer, genital warts
Approved dose regime in Hong Kong	9 to 14 years old: 2 doses 15 years old and above: 3 doses

Who Should Get HPV Vaccination?

HPV vaccination is most effective for women with no history of HPV infection, particularly those who have not engaged in sex act. The efficacy of HPV vaccination can vary among individuals who have had sexual experiences. Please consult your doctor for details.

Common Side Effects

HPV vaccinations share similar common side effects with other vaccinations, such as soreness and swelling at the injection site, fever, headache and nausea. Please consult your doctor for further advice.

Not Recommended to Receive HPV Vaccination in the Following Circumstances

- Pregnant women (Avoid getting pregnant during vaccination period)
- Fever
- Being allergic to the components of HPV vaccines
- A history of allergic reaction due to prior HPV vaccination

You should first consult your doctor if you are on immunosuppressive therapy, have genetic defects, human immunodeficiency virus or other immune system defects, thrombocytopenia or clotting disorders.

Is Cervical Cancer Screening still Necessary after HPV Vaccination?

Women should continue to undergo regular cervical cancer screening after HPV vaccination, for HPV vaccines provides no protection against infection by other HPV types not contained in the vaccines, nor can they clear the virus in those already infected.

Frequently Asked Questions

1. Why are pregnant women not recommended to have HPV vaccination?

HPV vaccine is primarily designed to prevent HPV infections, which can lead to cervical cancer and other related conditions.

But due to limited research and clinical trials specifically examining the safety and efficacy of the HPV vaccine on pregnant women, there is currently insufficient data to recommend HPV vaccination during pregnancy.

2. If a woman becomes pregnant after taking the first two doses, is it still possible for her to take the third dose?

If a woman becomes pregnant before completing the full HPV vaccine series, please consult a doctor about completing vaccination after childbirth.

3. Can I receive other vaccinations concurrently?

Yes, you can receive HPV vaccination with others at the same time.

4. Can I still get vaccinated if I am sick or have a flu?

If you have a cold, flu, or other medical conditions with mild symptoms, you may continue to receive the HPV vaccine. However, if you have fever and are feeling severely unwell, you should wait until you are recovered.

5. Can I receive vaccination if I am allergic to certain food or drugs?

For people who are allergic to the proteins in the relevant vaccine, vaccination is not advised.

6. Should I have gynaecological check-up before receiving HPV vaccination?

It is generally not necessary to undergo a gynaecological check-up specifically for the purpose of receiving the HPV vaccination.

However, it is important to note that regular gynaecological check-ups are generally recommended for overall reproductive health, including screenings for cervical cancer and other conditions. If you are due for a routine gynaecological check-up, it may be a good opportunity to discuss the HPV vaccine with your healthcare provider and address any questions or concerns you may have.