

The HPV vaccine is provided free in Victorian secondary schools to all boys and girls in Year 7.

HPV can affect both males and females. It is very common.

You can also:

- Talk to your children about the importance of the vaccine and make sure they attend school or see your local Aboriginal Health Service or doctor for both doses.
- Contact the school or Aboriginal Health Service if you do not receive the information or a consent form.
- Visit www.hpvvaccine.org.au or call Cancer Council on 13 11 20 for more information.

Cancer information and support

-  **13 11 20**
-  **askanurse@cancervic.org.au**
-  **www.cancervic.org.au**

Artwork:
Dixon Patten Jr – Yorta Yorta and Gunnai
www.cancervic.org.au/dixon-patten



Help keep our mob HPV free



Information about HPV vaccination for our community

Cancer Council 13 11 20
www.hpvvaccine.org.au



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You can help by talking to your children about the importance of the vaccine

A free vaccination program is offered in Victorian secondary schools to help protect our young ones from a range of cancers and disease caused by the human papillomavirus (HPV).

But currently more than a quarter of Aboriginal young people are missing out on their HPV vaccination.

Why the vaccination is important

HPV can affect both males and females. It is very common; in fact four out of five people will have a HPV infection at some point in their lives.

- **Genital HPV is transmitted by skin-to-skin contact.** It usually causes no symptoms and goes away by itself, but can sometimes lead to serious illness.
- **HPV causes almost all cases of genital warts and cervical cancer,** as well as oral cancers and cancers of the anus, penis, vagina and vulva.
- **The HPV vaccination helps to protect against HPV infections** that can lead to cancer and disease.

What does it involve?

12 and 13 year olds need both doses of the HPV vaccine to be fully protected.

The HPV vaccine is given as two injections. It's important to receive both doses to get the best protection against a range of HPV-related cancers and disease.

HPV causes almost all cases of genital warts and cervical cancer.

Where is the vaccination offered?

The HPV vaccine is provided free in Victorian secondary schools to all boys and girls in Year 7 under the National HPV Vaccination Program.

Girls and boys not attending school, or who may have missed the vaccine when in Year 7, can get the free HPV vaccine through their local council, doctor, or Aboriginal Health Service. Contact them for an appointment.

How can we find out if our children are immunised?

The Australian Immunisation Register keeps a record of all vaccinations. Contact the register, or speak to your local Aboriginal Health Worker or doctor to check.

To contact the register, call **1800 653 809**.

Your role

Parents or guardians of a student in early secondary school will receive information about the National HPV Vaccination Program, including a consent form, from the child's school.

The consent form needs to be signed and returned to the school before the vaccination can be given.

