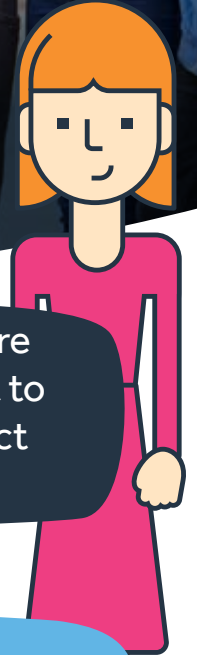




# 5

## THINGS A PARENT NEEDS TO KNOW ABOUT **HPV**



The more we learn about health risks for our children, the more we can do to help protect them as they grow up. It's important to get the facts about Human Papillomavirus (HPV). Let's protect them now against HPV infection when they're older.

1

HPV are small viruses that can have **big consequences.**

2

HPV can cause **genital warts** and certain **pre-cancers and cancers.**

HPV-related cancers develop very slowly and may not occur until later in life.<sup>8</sup>

3

HPV infects both **male and females.**

Both males and females are at equal risk of HPV infection. HPV is so common that almost everyone who is sexually active will get HPV infection at some point in their lifetime<sup>8</sup>. You are most likely to first encounter HPV in your late teens or early 20s<sup>8</sup>. This is why the HPV vaccine is offered in school<sup>8</sup>. The HPV vaccine is offered in school to protect a person before they're exposed<sup>8</sup>.

4

HPV can be spread even when someone with the virus has **no signs or symptoms.**<sup>8</sup>

5

Each September, the **HPV National Immunisation Programme** in Ireland offers vaccination to all boys and girls in first year of secondary school.<sup>8</sup>

Talk to your doctor, nurse or pharmacist about HPV infection and prevention  
And visit [HPVaware.ie](http://HPVaware.ie) for more information

# Protect your child against certain HPV-related cancers and diseases later in life.



HPV is so common that almost everyone who is sexually active will get HPV infections at some point in their lifetime<sup>8</sup>



**100 women & 30 men** each year in Ireland die from HPV-related cancers<sup>5</sup>



HPV infection is spread through intimate skin-to-skin contact<sup>8</sup>

HPV causes almost **5%** of cancers worldwide<sup>7</sup>

Virtually all cases of cervical cancer are caused by HPV<sup>7</sup>. Each year in Ireland approximately **6,500** women require treatment for pre-cancer of the cervix.<sup>8</sup>



HPV infection usually clears up by itself. When HPV infection doesn't clear up by itself, it may become a problem as it could lead to cancers<sup>8</sup>

Each September, the **HPV National Immunisation Programme** offers vaccination to all boys and girls in first year of secondary school. HPV immunisation is most effective before a person becomes sexually active<sup>9</sup>

Every year there are over **1,000** cases of genital warts in Ireland<sup>9</sup>

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