



To protect, nurture and advance
the health of our community

ONEIDA COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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Local Health Officials Concerned that Preteens are Not Protected Against Certain Cancers

In Oneida County, only 48.2% of preteens and teens are being vaccinated against certain cancers.

While HPV vaccination is the norm in many communities in Wisconsin, some teenagers are unprotected against HPV related cancers. According to 2018 data from the Wisconsin Immunization Registry (the most recent data available), 48.2% of Oneida County 13-18-year-olds are vaccinated against the human papillomavirus (HPV) leaving 51.8% unvaccinated. By remaining unvaccinated, they may be vulnerable to cancers caused by HPV infections.

Persistent HPV infections can cause head and neck cancers (back of the throat, base of the tongue, and tonsils) and anus in men and women; cancers of the cervix, vagina, and vulva in women; and cancers of the penis in men. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends the vaccine for girls and boys at age 11 to 12 years for best protection against cancer.

By vaccinating preteens against HPV today, we are reducing the chances that they become the cancer patients of tomorrow. The bottom line is that HPV vaccine helps prevent cancer and it is safe. Parents and caregivers are encouraged to talk to their child's doctor or nurse at their next health care visit. If a preteen has not received all doses of the HPV vaccine, make an appointment to get him or her vaccinated today.

Parents and caregivers can find out which vaccinations their child needs and at what age on the Wisconsin Immunization Program webpage. They can also keep track of the shots their preteens have had and what vaccines they may still need through the Wisconsin Immunization Registry (WIR).

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*Embracing change, partnerships, and best practices to lead
Oneida County to a healthy future.*