What’s Known

Healthcare systems own and manage networks of hospitals and clinics, and thus, can influence the provision of care for large numbers of patients. In pediatrics and family medicine, healthcare systems increasingly dominate the market, making them important partners in efforts to increase HPV vaccine uptake. To date, research suggests that systems-level interventions can improve HPV vaccination, with effects typically being modest in size and dependent on implementation.

• **Reminder/recall** interventions use text, email, phone, or mail to let parents know their child is due for HPV vaccination.1-10 Almost all evaluations find that reminder/recall interventions yield small to medium increases in HPV vaccination rates for at least some doses or populations.1-10 However, these interventions can be expensive to implement.11

• **Provider prompts**, such as EHR alerts, remind providers to recommend HPV vaccination during a patient visit.6, 9, 12, 13 Provider prompts have shown small increases in HPV vaccination rates, with “elaborated prompts” that suggest language to recommend HPV vaccine demonstrating greater increases than simple prompts without recommended language.6

• **Assessment and feedback** interventions give providers data on their immunization rates to help them improve their performance.12, 14, 15 Such interventions typically demonstrate small increases in HPV vaccination rates,12, 15 but sometimes only among younger adolescents.14

• **Multi-level interventions** may be especially effective,9, 12, 14-17 particularly when they combine clinical system interventions with provider communication training.13, 18
What’s New

Recent studies have focused on increasing the reach and impact of systems interventions:

- Interventions that target both providers and systems can create improvements in vaccination rates that are sustainable beyond the active intervention phase.
- Engaging clinical champions within systems is a promising approach for maximizing providers’ participation.19

What’s Next

In the coming years, ongoing studies will tell us more about how to deliver systems-level interventions effectively, including:

- How can interventions tested at the clinic level be successfully disseminated in large integrated delivery systems?
- How can we best motivate and support systems with low vaccination rates and in rural settings to undertake multi-level interventions?
- How can existing programs, like the CDC’s Immunization Quality Improvement for Providers (IQIP, formerly known as AFIX), support systems’ efforts to improve HPV vaccination rates?