



June 17, 2024

## Dear Vaccine Provider,

**Over 50% of adolescent immunizations, including HPV, are given between July and October. Start recommending HPV vaccine at ages 9 and 10,** so it leads to higher rates of finishing the series on time at age 11-12, providing the best cancer prevention for your patients. Providers may receive increased demands for HPV vaccines due to 'Watch Me Grow' communication materials being sent to some families of 9 and 10 year olds across Washington.

Two things you can do:

- 1. Practice using the Announcement Approach to make strong recommendations.**

Using the Announcement Approach is one of the best tools to increase immunization rates. [See this flyer](#) to learn more about how to use the Announcement Approach, and watch these example videos for [9-10 year olds](#), and [11-12 year olds](#).

- 2. Prepare the office and staff NOW for the rush of back-to-school vaccine requests.**

Check out the Washington State Department of Health's [website dedicated to HPV Vaccination at Age 9](#) with tools and resources.

Standardize your [vaccine schedule](#) AND post it in the lobby and every exam room. The poster gives parents and children something to read while they are waiting and adds legitimacy to your recommendations.

Consider using an easy resource like this [HPV cue card](#) to make sure everyone in the office is prepared to answer questions. It is also available [in Spanish](#).

Great news! Using these strategies will improve your immunization rates. Remember HPV vaccination is Cancer Prevention. We appreciate all your hard work caring for patients. We know you are short-staffed and working long hours. Thanks for all you do!