

January is Cervical Health Awareness Month

WHAT IS GARDASIL?

GARDASIL is the only cervical cancer vaccine that helps protect against 4 types of human papillomavirus (HPV): 2 types that cause 70% of cervical cancer cases, and 2 more types that cause 90% of genital warts cases.

There are more than 30 genital HPV types and about 6 million new cases of genital HPV in the United States per year. HPV Types 6, 11, 16, and 18 cause the most HPV related diseases (www.gardasil.com/what-is-gardasil/information-on-gardasil/index.html#five).

WHAT IS HPV? The human papilloma virus (HPV), is the most common sexually transmitted disease in the United States, and it can lead to cervical cancer.

WHAT IS CERVICAL CANCER? Cervical cancer is treatable and curable if detected early, according to the National Cervical Cancer Coalition. Cervical cancer affects around 10,000 women yearly in the US. It is important to talk to your doctor about regular Pap test screenings for females.

WHO IS GARDASIL FOR? It is for girls and young women ages 9 to 26. It has recently been approved for boys ages 9 to 26 as well.

HAVE ANY MEDICAL ORGANIZATIONS RECOMMENDED THE HPV VACCINATION? Yes! A number of national organizations have recommended HPV vaccinations. They include the American Academy of Pediatrics; the Centers for Disease Control (CDC); the American Academy of Family Physicians; and the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists.

3 IS KEY! There are three doses to the Gardasil series. The cost is \$10 per dose if you are 19 or younger. If you are over 19, the cost is \$140 per shot! Sign up to get the series now if you are under 19! The Medical card will cover the cost of the vaccinations.

WHERE DO I GO TO GET THE GARDASIL VACCINATION? The Coles County Health Department will be hosting clinics during the week of **January 25 through January 29 from 8:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m.** Please call 217-348-0530 for an appointment.