



Achieving Widespread HPV Vaccine Uptake

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HPV vaccination rates in the United States should be increased if we are to achieve optimal population impact from vaccination. Workshop participants will examine a variety of perspectives as part of developing recommendations for increasing vaccine uptake. Perspectives and issues include but are not limited to the following:

- **Policies** that determine price, access and availability, and policies that influence where and by whom vaccines may be administered—and who is eligible to receive them, under what conditions and with what reimbursement—affect their use. Are mandates effective and, if so, under what conditions? What, if any, policy changes are needed to increase use of HPV vaccines?
- **Programmatic initiatives** central to vaccine dissemination include Vaccines for Children Program; AFIX; and initiatives led by state and local public health authorities.
- **Financing, development, and implementation** of a large-scale HPV vaccine efforts
- **Barriers** to greater use of HPV vaccines include the following:
 - ✓ **Programmatic:** there has been a shift of responsibility for immunization from public health departments to private providers who now vaccinate nearly 80% of U.S. children. What problems and benefits have resulted from this change in providers?
 - ✓ **Financial:** copayments for vaccine and physician visits; lack of incentives for parents to have their children vaccinated; burden on providers to keep vaccines stocked on site; and potential for free or low-cost vaccines all affect uptake. Do any of these factors inhibit uptake?
 - ✓ **Behavioral:** vaccine acceptability; among adolescents, perceived likelihood of infection with HPV; beliefs and perceptions about HPV vaccines (e.g., safety, impact on sexual behavior, true or not); perceived barriers to vaccination (e.g., parents' beliefs that vaccination will promote sexual activity among vaccinated children; the vaccine can be given later; cancer is not a major concern)
 - ✓ **Communication:** Physicians and other health providers are important sources of information (in their ability to initiate conversations with patients about concerns, clarify misunderstandings, and recommend vaccine). Can the Internet, social media, and tools like crowd-sourcing be used to inform and improve discussions and decisions about HPV vaccination?
- **Potential benefits and harms of bundling vaccines**—co-administering HPV vaccine with other vaccines for adolescents may increase acceptability and uptake (e.g., Tdap).
- **Lessons from countries** with high-vaccine coverage rates (e.g., Australia).

Workshop Chairs

- **Noel T. Brewer, PhD, MS**, Associate Professor, UNC Gillings School of Global Public Health; Director, Cervical Cancer-Free NC
- **Robert T. Croyle, PhD**, Director, Division of Cancer Control and Population Sciences, National Cancer Institute