

Gardasil for Boys

As many parents already know, we have been vaccinating adolescent girls over the last 5 years with Gardasil.

Gardasil prevents infection with a virus known as HPV, which is the major cause of cervical cancer throughout the world. It also protects women from genital warts. The vaccine has proved to be extremely effective and safe.

The FDA has recently approved Gardasil for the use in adolescent boys.

Although boys cannot get cervical cancer, there are three solid reasons to consider Gardasil for boys.

- Boys pass HPV to girls through sexual relations
- HPV causes genital warts in boys as well as girls
- HPV causes genital and anal cancers in men

Although FDA-approved, the vaccine is not currently considered to be part of the routine vaccination schedule for boys. This decision was made because of a variety of economic reasons.

We believe that the use of Gardasil for boys is strongly warranted, and we will encourage its use. CRPA will offer the vaccine starting at age 12, as we do for girls. Some insurance plans are covering the vaccine for boys.

Gardasil is given as a three-shot series over six months.

Please speak with your CRPA physician about Gardasil for boys.