Shared Clinical Decision-Making

HPV Vaccination for Adults Aged 27-45 Years

Shared clinical decision-making (SCDM) is recommended regarding Human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccination for persons 27-45 year of age. Shared clinical decision-making recommendations are intended to be flexible and should be informed by the characteristics, values, and preferences of the individual patient and the clinical discretion of the healthcare provider.

HPV vaccination does not need to be discussed with most adults in this age group.
If you do decide to discuss HPV vaccination with an adult patient:

**Remember:**
- Most HPV infections clear on their own within a year or two, but persistent infections can lead to development of precancers or cancers, usually after several decades.
- HPV vaccination is not routinely recommended for adults 27-45 years of age.
- HPV vaccine effectiveness is highest in people who have never had sex.
- HPV vaccination prevents new HPV infection, it does not treat existing HPV infection or disease.
- Most adults who have had sex have been exposed to HPV before.
- HPV vaccine effectiveness might be low among people with more risk factors for HPV, such as having had sex with more than one person or having certain immunocompromising conditions.

**Consider:**
- At any age, having a new sex partner is a risk factor for getting a new HPV infection. However, this is only one possible consideration for SCDM.
- Adults with more HPV risk factors (for example, multiple previous sex partners or certain immunocompromising conditions) might have been infected with HPV in the past, so might have a lower chance of getting a new HPV infection in the future.
- Adults with fewer HPV risk factors (for example, few or no previous sex partners) might not have been infected with HPV in the past, so might have a higher chance of getting a new HPV infection from a new sex partner in the future.

**If you vaccinate:**
- If you and your previously unvaccinated adult patient decide to initiate HPV vaccination, offer a 3-dose series of HPV vaccine at 0, 2, and 6 months.
- If your patient is pregnant, delay HPV vaccination until after pregnancy.
- HPV vaccination is safe, unless a patient had a severe allergic reaction after a previous dose or to a vaccine component.

**Additional Information:**
Supplemental information and guidance for vaccination providers regarding use of 9-valent HPV:
- CDC Adult Immunization Schedule:
  - [www.cdc.gov/vaccines/schedules/hcp/imz/adult.html](http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/schedules/hcp/imz/adult.html)
- CDC/ACIP recommendations on HPV vaccination for adults:
  - [www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/68/wr/mm6832a3.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/68/wr/mm6832a3.htm)
- CDC/ACIP all current HPV vaccine recommendations:
  - [www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/acip-recs/vacc-specific/hpv.html](http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/acip-recs/vacc-specific/hpv.html)
- CDC HPV vaccination information for clinicians:
  - [www.cdc.gov/vaccines/ upd/hpv/hcp/index.html](http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/ upd/hpv/hcp/index.html)