

# Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) Vaccine and the College Population

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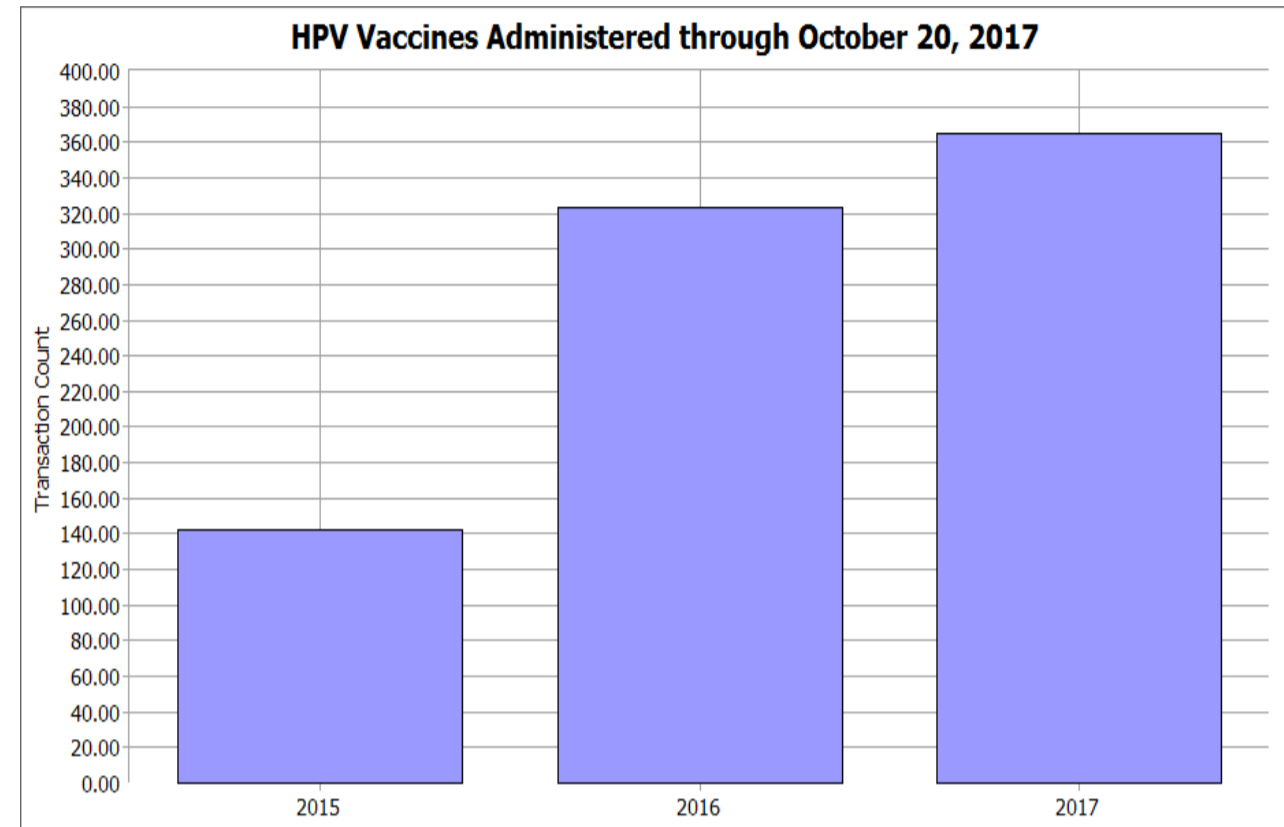
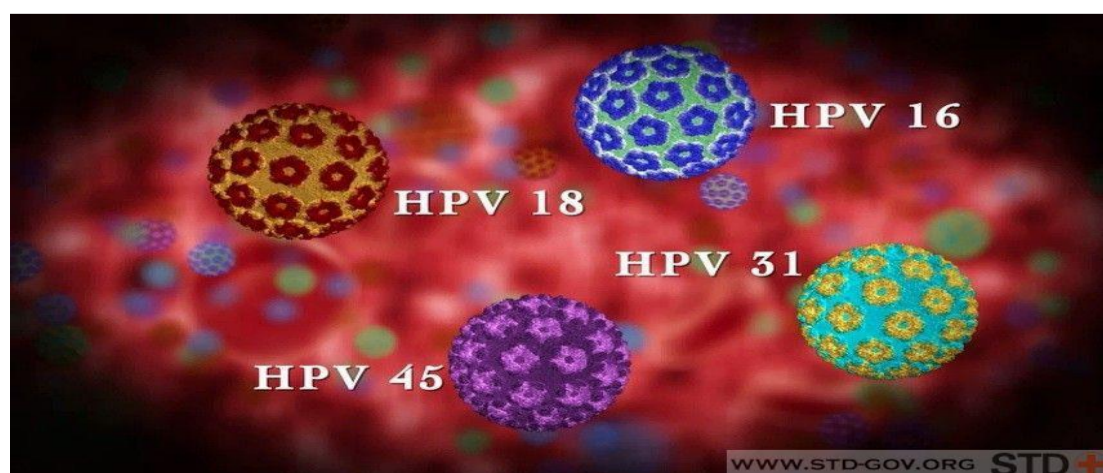
Creighton University, as a Catholic, Jesuit University is dedicated to excellence in undergraduate, graduate and professional programs, is committed to an ongoing process of assessment, reflection, evaluation and action that is consistent with the model of Ignatian teaching and learning. Learning is at the center of the assessment process at Creighton. We pride ourselves in producing graduates who obtain a "degree of difference" - who carry the imprint of a value-based education. We can only fully understand and continue to improve student learning through continuous inquiry and investigation.

## Abstract:

Human Papilloma virus is known to cause various cancers. It is a vaccine preventable disease. The three dose series must be initiated by the age of 26 years. The immunization records for each student visiting Creighton Student Health Services is reviewed at each visit. Students are counseled about the availability of the HPV vaccine if they haven't started the series, and when the vaccine series hasn't been completed.

## Goal: Promote Vaccination against HPV

- Educate and promote all eligible (up to age 26 years) Creighton students at each visit to Student Health Services
- Initiate the vaccine for students who have not started the vaccine series, and complete the series for those who have initiated, but not completed the series.
- Increase awareness of the HPV infection and its long term effects.
- Increase awareness of the HPV vaccine thereby increasing vaccination rates among Creighton Students.



## Facts About HPV and the HPV Vaccine:

- HPV vaccine causes genital warts in both females and males.
- HPV infection is usually contracted through sexual contact.
- Thousands of men and women develop cancer from HPV infection.
- HPV vaccine is available in a three-dose series for females and males 9-26 years of age.
- The first vaccine to prevent infection with four types of HPV was licensed in 2006. A 9-valent HPV vaccine was licensed in December 2014.
- Each year as estimated 28,400 HPV related cancers are diagnosed
- HPV Vaccine prevents numerous cancers including:
  - Anal
  - Cervical, Vaginal, Vulvar
  - Penile
  - Throat
- Source: *Centers for Disease Control 2017*

## Barriers to Immunization

- Students don't know about the vaccine
- Parents declined to have vaccines administered when students were younger.
- Students don't know what HPV infection is
- The vaccine may not be available in the student's home country, or is cost prohibitive.

## Interventions

- Immunization record is reviewed at each visit to SHS
- If no record of HPV immunization, student is asked about it.
- Education is provided about HPV, and its effects are discussed with the student.
- Written information including images of HPV infection are shared with the student
- If the student decides to proceed with immunization, appointments for subsequent vaccine are scheduled.

## Outcomes

- Students understand HPV, effects of the disease, availability of the vaccine and importance of completing the series.
- Students will be protected from the devastating effect of HPV infection.
- Students will be equipped with knowledge that can be shared with their patients if they choose to work in the health sciences.

## Conclusion

- The number of HPV vaccines administered at Student Health Services has increased significantly.
- Students are receiving protection from a serious infection that is on the increase. HPV vaccination is a tool proven effective in the fight against certain cancers.
- Many of our students aspire to be healthcare professionals. They will carry this knowledge with them into practice.
- Our students are the future of healthcare!