Nearly all sexually active men and women will get infected with human papillomavirus, or HPV, at some point in their lives. HPV can lead to serious health problems later in life, including certain cancers in both men and women. Since 2006, a vaccine has been available that protects against the most frequent cancer-causing types of HPV. The vaccine is recommended for children, starting at age 11 or 12. However, recent data indicate that only one-third of girls got all three recommended doses.

Parents, talk to your child’s health care provider about getting the HPV vaccine.

Thank you for joining us on A Minute of Health with CDC.

For the most accurate health information, visit www.cdc.gov or call 1-800-CDC-INFO.