PROTECT YOUR CHILDREN FROM CANCER

Most Americans think cancer will be curable within the next twenty-five years. What they may not know is that the risk for certain cancers can be reduced today.

Worldwide vaccination against the human papillomavirus—H-P-V—can greatly reduce the incidence of several cancers, especially cervical cancer and oropharyngeal [or-oh-fah-REN-jill] cancer. To that end, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention says all boys and girls should be vaccinated around age eleven or twelve. Unfortunately, only about thirty-six percent of girls and fourteen percent of boys have been protected so far.

To reduce the spread of H-P-V, the American Society of Clinical Oncology recommends three things: increased education for health care professionals, health policymakers and parents; better access to routine H-P-V vaccinations; and research on the most effective ways to raise vaccination rates.

To learn more about preventing cancer with H-P-V vaccinations, visit cancer--dot--net--slash--H-P-V.