In the United States (US), one in four people currently have human papillomavirus (HPV). About 80% of people will get HPV in their lifetime and many new infections occur in teens and young adults. HPV infection can cause certain cancers, including almost all cervical cancers and cancers of the anus, penis, vagina, vulva, and throat or mouth.1

HPV vaccination is recommended for all girls and boys aged 11 to 12 years. Two doses are recommended for people who start the series before age 15 and three doses for people who start later, at ages 15 through 26 years.2 The HPV vaccine protects from the types of HPV that most often cause cancers. Increasing HPV vaccine uptake can reduce cancer cases and deaths.3

- In New York State (NYS), HPV vaccination rates among teens 13-17 years old are similar to US rates (Figure 1).
- Despite recent progress, nearly half of NYS teens are not vaccinated against HPV and current HPV vaccination rates remain below rates for other vaccines recommended for teens (Figure 2).

**Public Health Opportunity**
A collaborative approach is needed, including strategies outlined in the NYS Comprehensive Cancer Control Plan, such as:
- Educate the public and healthcare providers on the importance and cancer prevention benefits of HPV vaccine.
- Expand HPV vaccine availability to new venues such as schools and other relevant healthcare settings.
- Institute reminder-recall systems in healthcare settings to increase HPV vaccination coverage.

For more information, please send an e-mail to BCDER@health.ny.gov with IFA #2018-12 in the subject line. To access other Information for Action reports, visit the NYSDOH public website: [http://www.health.ny.gov/statistics/prevention/injury_prevention/information_for_action/index.htm](http://www.health.ny.gov/statistics/prevention/injury_prevention/information_for_action/index.htm)