

RESOURCE FROM:

**IMPLEMENTING HPV VACCINATION PROGRAMS:
PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE FROM PATH**

PUBLICATION TITLE

Role-Play: Administering HPV Vaccine Safely and Correctly

PUBLISHER

PATH

PUBLICATION DATE

2007

This document is available online at:

www.rho.org/HPV-vaccine-implementation.htm

Role-play: administering HPV vaccine safely and correctly

From: Castilaw D, Wittet S. *Immunizing Girls and Women Against Human Papillomavirus (HPV)—A Training Module for Vaccinators*. Seattle: PATH, 2007.

Trainer's notes

Role-playing is an excellent educational tool that allows participants to put their new knowledge to use in a friendly and non-threatening environment. Participants almost always enjoy role-play exercises because they have a chance to show what they have learned and because it is fun.

The following are ideas for a role-play exercise on HPV vaccine administration. If you think participants need more practice preparing for the immunization sessions, loading the vaccines into cold boxes, giving injections, safely disposing of contaminated needles or syringes, or communicating with parents and patients, then create special role-plays to address these specific issues.

Role-play: administering HPV vaccine safely and correctly

1. Ask participants to form teams of three persons each. One participant will play the immunization *provider*. One will be the *mother* (or *father*) with a daughter. The third participant will act as an *observer*.
2. Give a copy of the role-play **observation checklist** (below) to each participant. Each provider will demonstrate the correct procedures for administering HPV vaccine, including interaction with the mother or father. Oranges or grapefruits can be used as injection models.
3. You may want to give special challenges to the providers. For example, ask the provider to role-play as if:
 - A 10-year-old girl is coming in for her first HPV dose.
Provider should praise the mother and girl for coming in and explain clearly when to return for the next doses of the vaccines.
 - Provider does not have updated record cards and has to use the old cards.
Provider should use the old cards and write that HPV vaccine has been given and the date.
 - The mother did *not* bring the child's immunization card.
Provider should praise the mother for coming, provide a card documenting the given dose, and ask her to bring the regular card in next time for updating.
 - The mother demands that she also be vaccinated.
Provider should explain to the mother who is in the targeted age group to receive the vaccine and why.
 - The mother has heard bad things about HPV vaccination.
Provider should talk with the parent about her fears, explain the benefits and possible side effects of the HPV vaccine, and encourage the mother to comply. If the mother still will not comply, ask her to come again when a medical doctor is available. Do not try to force her to comply.

- The child will soon be moving to another place—how can the vaccination be completed?
Provider should encourage the mother to speak with the health worker in the new place, show the health worker the vaccination card, and find out when to complete the vaccination dose schedule.
4. Each observer will fill out the observation checklist during the role-play between the provider and mother. Observers should check “yes” when the provider completes the action, “no” when the provider does not complete the action.
 5. Ask each team to stop role-playing after seven minutes (give them more time if you prefer). Tell all the mothers that they are now providers, all providers are now observers, and all observers are now mothers.
 6. Repeat the role-play for another seven minutes. Switch roles and repeat the role-play again until every participant has had a chance to be observer, provider, and mother at least once.
 7. Conduct a group discussion about the role-play. Share your own observations. Focus on the question “What can we do to improve our immunization service, increase safety, reduce dropouts, and increase coverage?” Be sure that participants think about how their behavior and communication with parents affects immunization coverage.

Role-play observation checklist: administering HPV vaccine

	Action	Observed? YES	Observed? NO
1.	Greet the parent(s).		
2.	Examine the child’s immunization card or question parent about child’s immunization history.		
3.	Tell the parent about the HPV vaccine, how it will be given, the possible side effects, and how to manage any side effects that occur.		
4.	Ensure that the vaccine you have is the HPV vaccine.		
5.	Check the expiration date of each vaccine.		
6.	Check the vaccine vial monitor (if any) of each vaccine.		
7.	Shake the vaccine gently but thoroughly.		
8.	Inspect for particles and discoloration. If present, do not use the vaccine.		

9.	Withdraw the 0.5-mL dose of vaccine from the vial with a sterile needle and syringe; discard the vial.		
10.	Administer the injection intramuscularly in the deltoid region of the upper arm or the higher anterolateral area of the thigh.		
11.	Depress the plunger until the entire dose has been given. While the plunger is still depressed, remove the needle from girl's arm or thigh.		
12.	Immediately dispose of the needle in an approved sharps container. Tell parent when to bring the girl back for her next dose.		
13.	Document the vaccine on the girl's health or vaccination card.		
14.	Tell parents when the next dose of the vaccine is due for their daughter.		
15.	Observe the patient for 15 minutes.		

Comments and feedback for vaccinator: _____
