



**take
care
clinic**SM

IMPORTANT NOTE:

Not all insurance plans accepted at Take Care Clinic cover the GARDASIL vaccine.

If planning to submit payment for the vaccine through insurance, patients **MUST** call 1-866-Take-Care to speak to a Patient Support Representative to determine eligibility.

For cash payers, GARDASIL is a three-dose series vaccine that costs \$214.99 for the first dose at Take Care Clinic. The second and third doses are \$184.99/dose.

Please read below for more details.

GARDASIL® Fact Sheet

1. What is GARDASIL and what is it used for?

GARDASIL is the first vaccine developed to help prevent cervical cancer, precancerous genital lesions and genital warts due to the Human Papillomavirus (HPV).

2. Who is eligible to receive the GARDASIL vaccine at Take Care Clinics?

GARDASIL is available to females ages 11-26 at all Take Care Clinics. Please contact the Take Care Health Patient Support Center at 1-866-Take-Care (1-866-825-3227) for clinic locations near you.

3. How is GARDASIL administered?

GARDASIL is a three-dose series vaccine administered over six months. The second and third doses should be given at two and six months (respectively) after the first dose. The HPV vaccine may be given at the same time as other vaccines.

4. How will I know when to get each of the three doses?

The Take Care Nurse Practitioner or Physician Assistant will call each patient, as a reminder, two weeks prior to the scheduled time for their second and third injections.

5. Is GARDASIL covered by insurance at Take Care Clinics?

Not all insurance plans accepted at the Take Care Health Clinic cover the GARDASIL vaccine. If planning to submit payment for the vaccine through insurance, patients **MUST call 1-866-Take-Care to speak to a Patient Support Representative to determine eligibility.**

The Patient Support Representative will call the patient's insurance company, determine eligibility, and call back the patient with the answer. Once eligibility is confirmed, the patient can go to a Take Care Clinic to receive the vaccine.

The patient must call the Patient Support Center to verify eligibility before each dose.

While many private health plans are providing coverage for GARDASIL, the levels of coverage can vary between plans and within plans. Your specific coverage can even change over time depending, for example, on any limitations that your health insurance applies to vaccines.

Take Care Clinic's policy is to determine the financial responsibility (if any) of the patient prior to administering the vaccine. By verifying eligibility up front, it will prevent the patient from potentially receiving an invoice if their insurance provider does not cover the vaccine.

6. If paying cash, how much does the vaccine cost?

GARDASIL is a three-dose series vaccine. The first dose at a Take Care Clinic is \$214.99. The second and third doses are \$184.99 per dose.

7. Who is NOT eligible to receive GARDASIL at Take Care Clinics?

You must be a female between the ages of 11-26 to get the vaccine at a Take Care Clinic.

The vaccine is not given to pregnant women (see details in **GARDASIL and HPV FAQ** below) or anyone with the following conditions:

- Allergic reaction to yeast, a prior dose, or allergy to any GARDASIL vaccine component



- Patient currently taking immunosuppressant therapy or is immunocompromised
- Moderate illness with fever greater than 100° F
- Is currently pregnant or planning pregnancy during the course of treatment
- Bleeding disorder in which injections are contraindicated

GARDASIL® and HPV Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is HPV?

HPV is the most common sexually transmitted virus in the United States. In 2005 the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) estimated that 20 million people in the U.S. are infected, and about 6.2 million more get infected each year. There are many different types of HPV. Some cause no harm; others can cause diseases of the genital area. For most people, the virus goes away on its own. When the virus does not go away, it can develop into cervical cancer, precancerous lesions, or genital warts, depending on the HPV type.

Every year in the U.S. about 10,000 women get cervical cancer and 3,700 die from it. Cervical cancer is the 2nd leading cause of cancer deaths among women around the world.

2. HPV vaccine – why get vaccinated?

HPV vaccine is an inactivated (not live) vaccine which is highly effective in protecting against four major types of HPV in young women who have not been previously exposed to HPV. This vaccine targets HPV types that cause up to 70% of all cervical cancers and about 90% of genital warts. The vaccine will not treat existing HPV infections or their complications.

3. Is the vaccine safe and effective?

The FDA has licensed the HPV vaccine as safe and effective. This vaccine has been tested in thousands of females (9-26 years of age) around the world. These studies have shown no serious side effects. The most common side effect is brief soreness at the injection site. CDC, working with the FDA, will continue to monitor safety of the vaccine after it is in general use.

4. For whom is the vaccine recommended?

The CDC has stated that the vaccine is routinely recommended for girls 11-12 years of age. It is important for girls to get HPV vaccine before their first sexual contact – because they have not been exposed to HPV. For these girls, the vaccine can prevent almost 100% of disease caused by the four types of HPV targeted by the vaccine. However, if a girl or woman is already infected with a type of HPV, the vaccine will not prevent disease from that type.

The vaccine is also recommended for girls and women 13-26 years of age who did not receive it when they were younger.

5. For whom is the vaccine NOT recommended?

The vaccine is not recommended for pregnant women. There has only been limited information about vaccine safety among pregnant women and their unborn babies. So far, studies suggest that the vaccine has not caused health problems during pregnancy, nor has it caused health problems for the child. But more research is still needed. For now, pregnant women should wait to complete their pregnancy before getting the vaccine. If a woman finds out she is pregnant after she has started getting the vaccine series, she should wait until after her pregnancy is completed to finish the three-dose series.

Anyone in the following situations should not have the vaccine:

- Allergic reaction to yeast, a prior dose, or allergy to any GARDASIL vaccine component
- Patient currently taking immunosuppressant therapy or is immunocompromised
- Moderate illness with fever greater than 100° F
- Is currently pregnant or planning pregnancy during the course of treatment
- Patient has bleeding disorder in which injections are contraindicated

For Take Care Clinic location information and for additional questions about GARDASIL, please contact the Take Care Health Patient Support Center at 1-866-Take-Care (1-866-825-3227).