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| MEET YOUR MOUTH |  |
| IT’S PART OF YOUR BODY |  |
| Your Mouth and HPV |  |
| HPV is one of the most common sexually transmitted infections. It can infect the |  |
| mouth and throat. And there are some types of HPV that increase the risk for certain head and neck cancers. |  |
| HPV is linked with 70% of oral cancers. |  |
| It spreads by skin-to-skin contact and through oral sex. To protect yourself from HPV and other oral cancers, use condoms and dental dams to lower the chance of orally transmitted HPV. |  |
| Smokers have a higher risk of developing oral HPV. If you’re sexually active, you should regularly get tested for STIs. |  |
| HPV Vaccine and Oral Health |  |
| The vaccine was created to deter cervical and genital cancers, but it works to fight orally transmitted HPV. Many receive the vaccine in their adolescents. |  |
| The Food & Drug Administration has approved the HPV vaccine for those up to age 45. The HPV vaccine as a safe and effective way to reduce the risk for oral HPV infections and the cancers they can cause. |  |
| The HPV vaccine has a very good safety record. The American Academy of Pediatrics |  |
| (AAP) reports that more than 170 million doses have been given with no serious safety concerns. |  |
| More Information |  |
| Minnesota Oral Health Coalition |  |