VACCINE INFORMATION SHEET

Human Papillomavirus (HPV) Vaccine

(Gardasil ® 9 Vaccine)

This vaccine protects against HPV infection

 Two shots of the vaccine is recommended to people who start the vaccine series under the age of 15 and 3 doses for those starting the vaccine after their 15th birthday. The cost of this is covered by the province of Ontario for most grade 7-12 students

Mild side effects may occur, such as:

• Redness, swelling or discomfort at the injection site **Severe side effects are rare**

People should avoid this immunization if they:

- Those who have had a severe reaction to a vaccine
- Pregnant people should wait until after pregnancy to start or complete the vaccine series

People should consult their health care provider before vaccination if they:

- Have complicated medical issues or previous severe reactions to vaccines
- Those who have a severe allergy to yeast, aluminum, sodium chloride, L-histidine, polysorbate 80, sodium borate vaccine

Human Papilloma Virus

HPV is a sexually transmitted infection. HPV is passed on through genital contact with an infected person. Most people infected with HPV have no symptoms. They can pass the virus on to others without even knowing it. For some people, infections will go away without treatment within a couple of years, but others may develop HPV-related complications such as genital or anogenital warts, cervical, penile, anal, head or neck cancer.

More about the HPV Gardasil® 9 vaccine

- All Grade 7 students in Ontario are offered Gardasil® 9 vaccine at no cost, providing protection against nine of the most prevalent disease causing strains of HPV
- If a student misses being vaccinated in Grade 7, they can receive HPV vaccine until the end of grade 12 at a York Region Public Health community clinic. Visit york.ca/immunization for clinic information
- If a student started the series with Gardasil®4 vaccine but not completed it, the series can be completed with Gardasil® 9 vaccine until the end of Grade 12

PUBLIC HEALTH 1-877-464-9675 TTY 1-866-512-6228 york.ca/immunizations

