

Mayo Clinic Minute

The rise of HPV-related throat cancer

Video	Audio
	More than three quarters of Americans will get human papillomavirus at some point in their lives.
	Most will never know it because they'll show no symptoms.
00:01:49 Eric Moore, M.D. Head and Neck Surgery Mayo Clinic	"And if they develop a chronic viral infection of what we call high-risk HPV, then they will sometimes develop a cancer related to that virus. And that cancer typically occurs in their tonsil or base of [their] tongue."
	Dr. Eric Moore, a Mayo Clinic head and neck surgeon, says HPV-related throat cancer is becoming more common.
	This year, 20,000 will be diagnosed.
	Next year, an estimated 22 or 23,000.
	Dr. Moore says the good news is that the cancer is fairly easy to treat, usually with robotic surgery like this to remove the tonsils.
	But he hopes more people getting the HPV vaccine will help lower the number of cases in the future.
00:09:37	"This is a tumor that's still increasing in incidence, but we see hope on the horizon that increased vaccination will then start a downward trend in the number of cancers that we see."
	For the Mayo Clinic News Network, I'm Ian Roth.