

Mayo Clinic Minute

Why you need to get the HPV vaccine now

Video	Audio
	No matter how careful you think you've been, you've probably had a sexually transmitted infection at some point.
	In fact, human papillomavirus, or HPV, is so common, that almost every single one of us will get it at some point in our lives.
00:06:20 GREGORY POLAND, M.D. VACCINE RESEARCH GROUP Mayo Clinic	"Most of them will resolve that infection, but many will not. They will be left with untreatable genital warts or later in life, develop a whole variety of cancers as a result of that viral infection."
	But there's a vaccine that is extremely effective at preventing HPV.
	Until recently, only young people up to the age of 26 were able to get the vaccine.
	But Dr. Gregory Poland, head of the Mayo Clinic Vaccine Research Group, says that recently changed.
00:07:04 DR. GREGORY POLAND 2:	"Now that has been extended up to the age of 45."
	And it's not just HPV you'll be protecting yourself from.
00:07:10 DR. GREGORY POLAND 2:	"This is a vaccine, I like to tell people, against sexually transmitted cancer. That's its importance."
	For the Mayo Clinic News Network, I'm Ian Roth.