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Subject: HPV vaccines prequalified by World Health Organization
Preheader:



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News and views of interest to our community

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HPV vaccines prequalified by World Health Organization

Approval opens the door to price negotiations

World Health Organization (WHO) regulatory authorities have "prequalified" both of the world's HPV vaccines—Merck & Co.'s Gardasil® and GlaxoSmithKline's Cervarix®—for procurement by United Nations agencies such as the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) Revolving Fund for Vaccine Procurement. This clears the way for the GAVI Alliance to buy HPV vaccine, once the GAVI Board approves that strategy.

The WHO safety and efficacy review is similar to European or US Food and Drug Administration approval of a vaccine. Prequalification signals that the regulators have determined that both manufacturers are producing safe, high quality products.

In April, the WHO published a [position paper on HPV vaccination](#) calling for widespread immunization of young adolescent girls where feasible and sustainable.

Cervical Cancer Action is hopeful that negotiations to dramatically reduce the cost of HPV vaccine will show results soon.

We also call for continued leadership—internationally and nationally—to ensure that these vaccines become available to those who need them most.

For more information on WHO processes or pricing of new vaccines, CCA partner, the International AIDS Vaccine Initiative (IAVI) has published two useful briefs:

- "[WHO's Key Normative Processes and Institutions for Vaccines: A Primer](#)" describes the WHO processes for developing recommendations on the use of new vaccines and prequalifying manufacturers.
- "[Procurement and Pricing of New Vaccines for Developing Countries](#)" explains how vaccines are procured and explores how their prices are set for the public sector in developing countries.

For more information on HPV vaccines and vaccination strategies, please visit these websites:

- [RHO Cervical Cancer—Vaccination](#)
- [US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention—HPV Vaccination](#)

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