

Health Department Announces HPV Clinic

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The St. Mary's County Health Department will be holding a Genital Human Papillomavirus (HPV) Vaccine Clinic for the public, Friday, Jan. 23, from 2 p.m. – 4 p.m. at the Health Department, 21580 Peabody Street, Leonardtown.

The Center for Disease Control reports HPV is the most common sexually transmitted virus in the United States. HPV is important mainly because it can cause cervical cancer in women. Every year in the U.S. about 10,000 women get cervical cancer and about 3,700 die from it. HPV vaccine is an inactivated vaccine that protects against 4 major types of HPV. Protection from HPV vaccine is expected to be long-lasting. HPV vaccine is given as a 3-dose series over a six month period. The vaccine will be given free of charge.

The clinic will be open to St. Mary's County female residents, ages 12 to 26 years. A parent or guardian is required for females under the age of 18 years. Contact the Health Department at (301) 475-4316 to schedule an appointment or for more information.

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