



FAX about ...



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Routine Vaccine Conversations for MSM Patients!

Healthcare providers play a significant role in determining a patient's risk for sexually transmitted/blood-borne infections (ST/BBI) and providing counselling on risk reduction strategies including immunization.

Among men having sex with men (MSM), the risk of persistent **human papillomavirus (HPV)** infection and **genital warts** are about **3 times higher** than heterosexual males; and the risk of **anal cancer** is **20 times higher**. An estimated **10%** of new **hepatitis A** cases in adults occur in MSM.

Publicly funded **HPV9 vaccine** is available to MSM **26 years of age or younger**. **Hepatitis A vaccine** is also publicly funded for **all** MSM regardless of their age.

Durham Region Health Department (DRHD) encourages you to talk to your MSM patients about their sexual practices and encourage them to get immunized against HPV and hepatitis A. MSM are eligible to receive these vaccines at a DRHD **sexual health clinic** location at **no cost**. For clinic locations visit:

<https://www.durham.ca/en/health-and-wellness/sexual-health.aspx>

More information on risk reduction strategies to include in discussions with MSM can be found in chapter 6.3 of the Canadian Guidelines on Sexually Transmitted Infections:

<https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/infectious-diseases/sexual-health-sexually-transmitted-infections/canadian-guidelines/sexually-transmitted-infections/canadian-guidelines-sexually-transmitted-infections-40.html>

Health care provider resources now available to order online durham.ca/HCP.

Durham Region Health Department: 905-668-7711, 1-800-841-2729

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If you prefer to receive this information in an electronic format please submit your request to healthresources@durham.ca

If you require this information in an accessible format, contact 1-800-841-2729.