

ACS CAN Supports the PREVENT HPV Cancers Act of 2025 (H.R. 6561)



40,000
 Nearly 40,000 cancers are caused by HPV infection each year.¹



90%
 90% of HPV-associated cancers can be prevented by the HPV vaccine when delivered during adolescence.¹



1/2
 Women born in the 1990s had nearly half the cervical cancer incidence rate of those born in the 1970s.²

Background

Human papilloma virus (HPV) is a viral infection known to cause six types of cancer - anal, cervical, oropharyngeal, penile, vaginal, and vulvar. The HPV vaccine helps to prevent most HPV infection types that cause cancer. A 2026 study found that vaccinated women ages 20 to 24 in England reported zero deaths from cervical cancer, indicating that the elimination of cervical cancer through vaccination is tangible goal.³

Despite the proven safety and effectiveness of the HPV vaccine in preventing HPV-associated cancers, vaccination rates remain low (61% in adolescents aged 13-17).⁴ Factors driving low rates of HPV vaccination include a lack of physician recommendation for the vaccine, a lack of parental demand for the HPV vaccine, and the dissemination of misinformation about the safety and effectiveness of vaccines.⁵ A commitment to increasing both provider and public awareness of the importance of the HPV vaccine in preventing HPV-associated cancers is needed to decrease the incidence of HPV-associated cancers.

Bill Summary

The Promoting Resources to Expand Vaccination, Education, and New Treatments for HPV Cancers Act of 2025 (PREVENT HPV Cancers Act of 2025/H.R. 6561)⁶ - introduced by Representatives Kathy Castor (D-FL), Don Bacon (R-NE), and Kim Schrier (D-WA) - amends the Public Health Service Act to establish an HPV cancer prevention public awareness campaign under the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The campaign promotes awareness of the HPV vaccine's cancer prevention benefits, dispels misinformation, and aims to increase vaccination rates and completion of the full vaccine series. The public awareness campaign will:

- Utilize evidence-based public engagement methods to spread scientifically backed information on HPV vaccine guidelines, benefits, and safety;
- Include culturally and linguistically appropriate resources for communities with higher risk of HPV-associated cancers, lower vaccination rates, or increasing rates of oropharyngeal cancers⁷;
- Distribute HPV vaccination information and communication materials to health care providers, state and local public health departments, elementary and secondary schools, and higher education institutions;
- Coordinate with existing federal initiatives regarding HPV vaccination and HPV-associated cancer screenings; and
- Include qualitative assessments to monitor progress and impact.

The PREVENT HPV Cancers Act of 2025 also increases funding for the National Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program (NBCCEDP), an existing CDC program aimed at expanding access to breast and cervical cancer screening for low-income women by strengthening health systems, connecting women to screening services, and informing future policies relevant to screening.

ACS CAN's Position

ACS CAN supports fact-based vaccine policies that **reduce the cancer burden and protect those affected by cancer**, including **evidence-based efforts to achieve the highest possible HPV vaccination rates**, consistent with American Cancer Society HPV Vaccination Guidelines⁸, to prevent HPV-associated cancers. The PREVENT HPV Cancers Act of 2025 aligns with these goals. **ACS CAN support the PREVENT HPV Cancers Act of 2025** to increase awareness of the causal link between HPV and HPV-associated cancers, increase HPV vaccination rates and cervical cancer screenings, and decrease the morbidity and mortality of HPV-associated cancers.