



March 5, 2008

Dear Medical Director:

Please work with us on a quality initiative that may affect young female patients. The health plans in Minnesota along with Stratis Health are collaborating on a statewide performance improvement project focused on females ages 11 and 12 years old who are enrolled in Minnesota Medicaid and MinnesotaCare Programs.

The desired outcome of this project is to promote administration of the Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) vaccine in order to prevent the spread of HPV strains associated with up to 70% of cervical cancer and 90% of anogenital warts in the United States. Since most women acquire HPV infections soon after becoming sexually active, vaccinations are recommended at ages eleven and twelve years, before most females engage in sexual intercourse.

What we would like to ask of you is:

- Your assistance in educating parents and guardians of females ages 11 and 12 years old about prevention of HPV and its relationship to cervical cancer (we will soon provide your clinic with patient educational materials that you may use).
- Your assistance in encouraging appropriate immunizations to reduce the risk of HPV infection.

Later this spring, the collaborating health plans will share (electronically) with your clinic educational resources that will help address identified barriers to HPV immunization. Your cooperation and clinical judgment are absolutely essential to the success of this performance improvement project. We thank you in advance for your cooperation and support of this important HPV vaccination collaborative project.

If you have any questions related to this letter, please contact your health plan representative listed below.

Sincerely,

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