If you could protect a loved one against HPV-related cancer, would you?

**The virus**
Human papillomavirus, or HPV, is a group of 150+ related viruses. HPV causes more than 30,000 cases of cancer each year.

_Centers for Disease Control & Prevention_

**The age range**
The HPV vaccine is for boys and girls ages 11-12. Catch-up vaccination is also recommended up to age 26 if the vaccine was missed at the recommended time.

**The vaccine**
The FDA-approved vaccine is recommended in a two-dose series up to the age of 15 and in three doses for older teens and young adults.

**The importance**
The vaccine protects against HPV types that cause most cervical cancers and some cancers of the anus, vulva, vagina and oropharynx.

**Vaccination rates in South Carolina continue to fall below national averages.**
In South Carolina, HPV vaccination rates are 6% lower than national rates for both boys and girls.

53% 47%
Girls

44% 38%
Boys

**HPV-associated cancer rates by state**

HPV is estimated to cause more than 580 new cancers in South Carolina each year.

_Centers for Disease Control & Prevention, 2011-2015_