

Alberta, let's talk

# HPV and Cancer Prevention for 2SLGBTQI+ Communities

## What is HPV?

Human Papillomavirus (HPV) is the most common sexually transmitted infection and certain strains can cause genital warts or cancer.



## HPV is Common

More than 80% of sexually active people will be exposed to HPV at some point in their lives

## HPV Can Lead to Cancer

HPV infections are responsible for nearly 100% of cervical cancers, and can also cause:

- 90% of anal cancers
- 40%-50% of penile cancers
- 40% of vaginal cancers
- 60%-73% of head and neck cancers

## Get Protected

The HPV vaccination is one of the best ways to protect yourself. Most people get vaccinated in Grade 6. If you missed it, you can still get vaccinated.

**Free for people under the age of 27**

If you're 27 or older, a vaccine can be purchased privately - some insurance plans may cover the cost.

## Learn more

Get information about HPV and how to access vaccination by:

- Talking to a healthcare provider
- Calling Health Link at 811
- Visiting [praxushealth.ca/hpvalberta](https://praxushealth.ca/hpvalberta)



## How does it spread?

HPV spreads through skin-to-skin sexual contact, including oral, anal, genital, and shared toys.

## What are the symptoms?

Most people who contract HPV don't have any signs or symptoms. Some people may experience genital or anal warts.

## HPV doesn't discriminate

HPV can affect anyone, regardless of who they're attracted to, how they identify, or the kinds of sex they have.

