Human Papillomavirus Types: What you need to know.

Human papillomavirus (HPV) is the most common sexually transmitted infection and is associated with cervical genital, anal, and oropharyngeal cancers. Vaccination before exposure can prevent cancer. The Oregon Public Health Division monitors the impact of HPV vaccination on precancerous cervical changes and the HPV types associated with those cervical cancer precursors.

HPV type 16 is the most common HPV type found in women in the Portland Metropolitan area. This finding is consistent with findings across the United States. All HPV vaccines on the market prevent types 16 & 18.

Reports of precancerous cervical lesions caused by HPV types found in vaccines have declined since 2008. At the same time, there was no significant change in the number of women with precancerous cervical lesions associated with HPV types not covered in the vaccines. These findings suggest that HPV vaccinations may be protecting young women in Oregon.

For more information about HPV, visit
http://1.usa.gov/QEBu60