

RESOLUTION

Submitted by Dana Boyd, RN on behalf of the Windsor-Essex Chapter

WHEREAS it is a social justice and equality issue that males are not publicly funded to receive HPV vaccination in Ontario; and

WHEREAS HPV vaccination in males has the potential to reduce HPV associated morbidity and mortality in men and women;

WHEREAS newer Canadian guidelines are recommending male HPV vaccination.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that RNAO advocate on behalf of males for their inclusion into the publicly funded HPV vaccination program in Ontario with the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care.

BACKGROUND

In September 2007, the government of Canada approved, endorsed and funded free vaccinations to protect women against HPV. In Ontario, free vaccines to protect women against HPV were publicly funded, and delivered through the vaccine preventable departments within the 36 Health Units across Ontario to girls in grade 8. Most recently, Ontario has expanded the program to allow females to get the vaccine up until grade 12.

Males can be infected with HPV. Males are at risk of developing HPV-related genital warts and some types of cancers (e.g., penile, anal, and some head and neck cancers related to HPV). Males can also be carriers of HPV without experiencing visible symptoms, and can pass the HPV virus unknowingly to their partners.

Recently, the Canadian National Advisory Committee on Immunization (NACI) recommended the use of HPV vaccine for males.

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