Demystifying the human papillomavirus vaccine

Cancer Facts & Stats July 2021 by Valentina Rangel and Romina A. Tejada Division of Cancer Epidemiology, McGill University

Human papillomavirus (HPV) is the most common sexually transmitted infection, with an 84.6% lifetime risk among women with at least 1 opposite sex partner and 91.3% for men (1). HPV transmission occurs through direct skin-to-skin contact during sexual activity. Most HPV infections clear up on their own, but some persist leading to a chronic infection that can cause cancer, especially cervical cancer, but also head and neck squamous

