

2024 Area of Interest for HPV

HPV Areas of Interest

Effective April 2024, the Merck Investigator Studies Program Review Committee (MISP-RC) for HPV will accept protocols within our current areas of interest (AOI) up to July 15, 2024. This is a competitive review process that will be conducted by the HPV MISP Review Committee. Decisions will be made on the basis of scientific merit and strategic fit within the AOI. Please review the critical activities and abide by the timelines as outlined below. The program requests that investigators specify how they will support diversity in enrollment to include traditionally underrepresented minorities/ethnic groups.

Areas of Interest

Real-World-Evidence of Value

- Studies to assess long term immune response and clinical outcomes to HPV vaccines in adolescents vaccinated during Gavi or other vaccination programs in LMICs with different HIV disease burden
- Studies to examine the impact and effectiveness of HPV quadrivalent and nonavalent vaccines in female and male populations. (If dosing effect will be studied, please specify in the proposal.)
- Studies that evaluate the HPV vaccination coverage rate (VCR) through secondary database (e.g., claims, electronic health records, registries).

Implementation Science

- Analysis of data to identify changes in vaccine coverage rates and series completion in practices where age at first dose is 9 years old compared to ages 11 to 14
- Studies that evaluate the success of different vaccination catch up strategies for adolescents, young and older adults
- Studies that evaluate changes in acceptance and uptake of HPV vaccination in countries that switch to reduced dosing schedules
- Studies that evaluate adherence to recommended dosing schedules in persons living with HIV (PLWH) in countries that implement single dose schedules

Vaccinating Adults

- Assessment of the HPV infection or re-infection and related disease incidence and prevalence in healthy and immunocompromised adults (18-26 and 27+)
- Knowledge, attitudes, and practices of healthcare professionals on HPV vaccination in adult men and women ages 27+ years old, including research in drivers, barriers, and implementation mechanisms
- Willingness, acceptance, key determinants, and uptake of HPV vaccination in adult men and women ages 18 to 26 and 27+ years old, including different delivery systems or points of vaccination and different communication strategies using behavioral science

New Frontiers

- Epidemiological and/or virological studies to demonstrate whether vaccinating infected men or women prevents transmission of vaccine type-specific HPV infection to partners
- Evaluation of new molecular techniques to differentiate between isotypic HPV re-infection and re-activation of latent infection
- Studies to evaluate clinical and virologic effects of prophylactic HPV vaccination in patients with RRP