

# SEXUAL HEALTH VACCINES

*& What you need to know*

Learn about ways to stay protected.

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# BASICS OF VACCINES

## WHAT IS A VACCINE?

- Long-term prevention medicine.
- Decreases adverse health effects.
- Boosts immune system's defense against infections.

## HOW DOES A VACCINE WORK?

- Mimic infection to activate immune system.
- Contain antigen triggering antibody production.
- "Preview" infection, enhancing body's defense.

## HOW CAN I LEARN MORE ABOUT VACCINES?

- Ask your healthcare provider.
- Call your local or state health department's vaccination division.
- Visit FDA website: [www.fda.gov/vaccines-blood-biologics/vaccines](http://www.fda.gov/vaccines-blood-biologics/vaccines)
- CDC: 1-800-232-4636 or [www.cdc.gov/vaccines](http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines)

# HEPATITIS A (HAV)

Hepatitis A (HAV) is transmitted through a fecal-oral route. The HAV vaccine can decrease its spread and reduce the severity of symptoms.

## WHAT IS THE VACCINE?

- 2-dose series.
- First shot for children aged one year or older.

## WHO IS THE HAV VACCINE RECOMMENDED FOR?

- Children aged 12-23 months and those not vaccinated by 18.
- International travelers
- Men who have sex with men
- People who use injection drugs
- People who are experiencing homelessness
- People who work in restaurants, daycares, nursing homes, and plumbing.
- Pregnant women
- Severe liver disease patients and HIV-positive individuals.

## WHY GET THE VACCINE?

- Affects anyone, especially older adults and children.
- Acquired through contaminated food, untreated water, or contact.
- Symptoms: fatigue, stomach pain, nausea, jaundice, diarrhea, joint pain, fever.

# MYTH OR FACT

## DOES THE HAV VACCINE LAST AT LEAST 20 YEARS?

### The truth

- The CDC suggests that protection against the Hepatitis A virus lasts as long as 20 years for people who are fully vaccinated.

**FACT**

# HEPATITIS B (HBV)

Hepatitis B (HBV) is dangerous because it is a “silent infection,” as it often presents no symptoms and liver enzyme tests can appear normal.

## WHAT IS THE VACCINE?

- Protects against severe liver disease, failure, or cancer.
- Administered three shots within 24 hours of birth.

## WHY GET THE VACCINE?

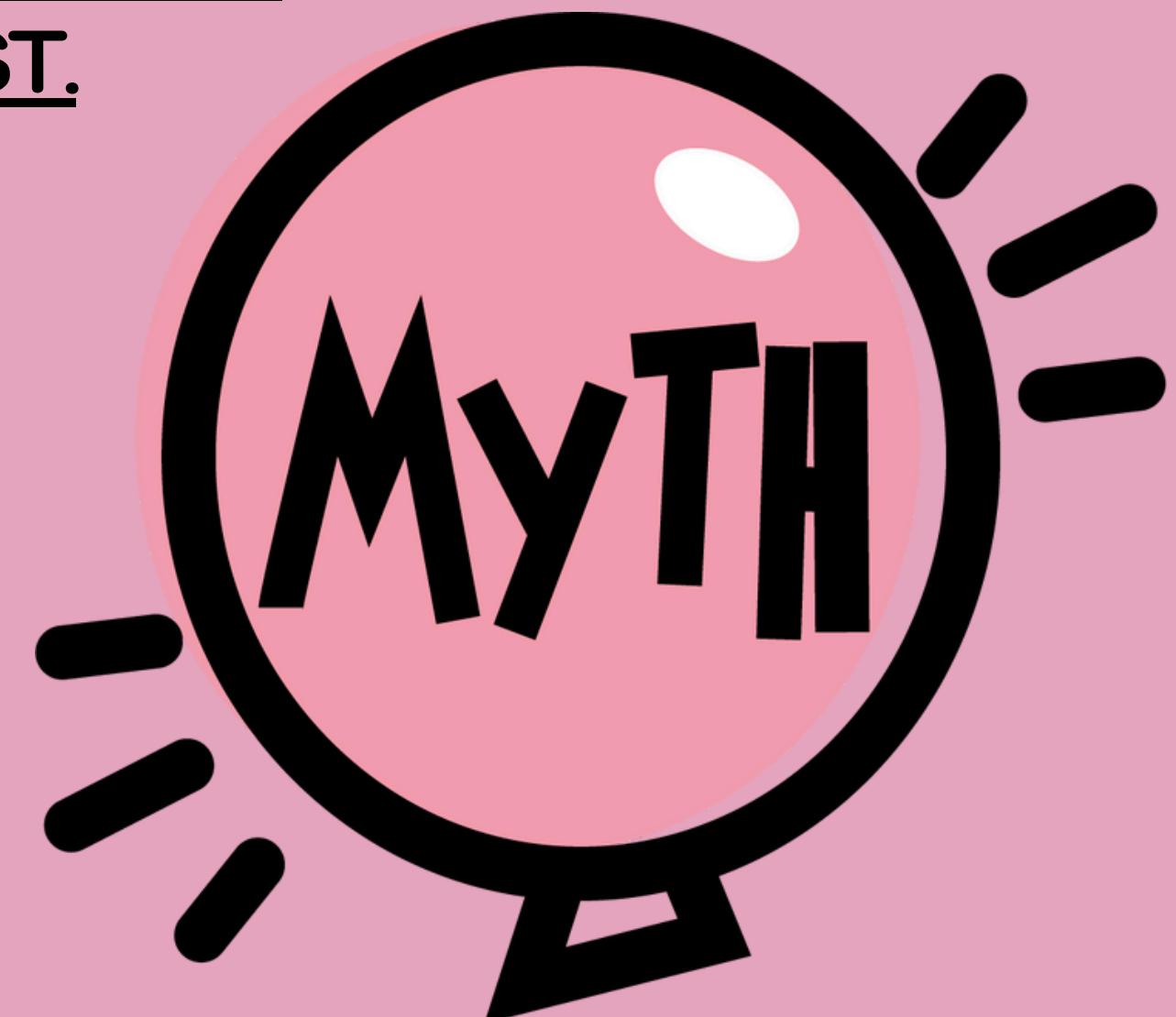
- Transmitted through contact with contaminated blood, products, vaginal fluids, and semen.
- Risks include poor infection control, blood product receipt, injection drug use, unprotected sex, tattooing, and acupuncture.
- Symptoms include abdominal pain, fatigue, fever, jaundice, joint pain, nausea, vomiting, light stool, and dark urine.
- Most children under 5 and immunocompromised adults don't show symptoms.
- Only 30-50% of new infections will show signs and symptoms.

# MYTH OR FACT

**MY DOCTOR DEFINITELY WOULD HAVE TOLD ME  
IF I HAD HEPATITIS B, OR IF I NEEDED A TEST.**

## The truth

- Hepatitis B is not a routine blood test. You should not assume you have been tested. You should ask your doctor about hepatitis B testing to be sure.



# MYTH OR FACT

**“MY DOCTOR SAID I WAS HEALTHY CARRIER,  
THAT MEANS I CAN APPEAR HEALTHY AND HAVE  
THE VIRUS.”**

## The truth

- Despite appearing healthy, individuals can still live with the virus.
- Regular check-ups are recommended every 6-12 months.

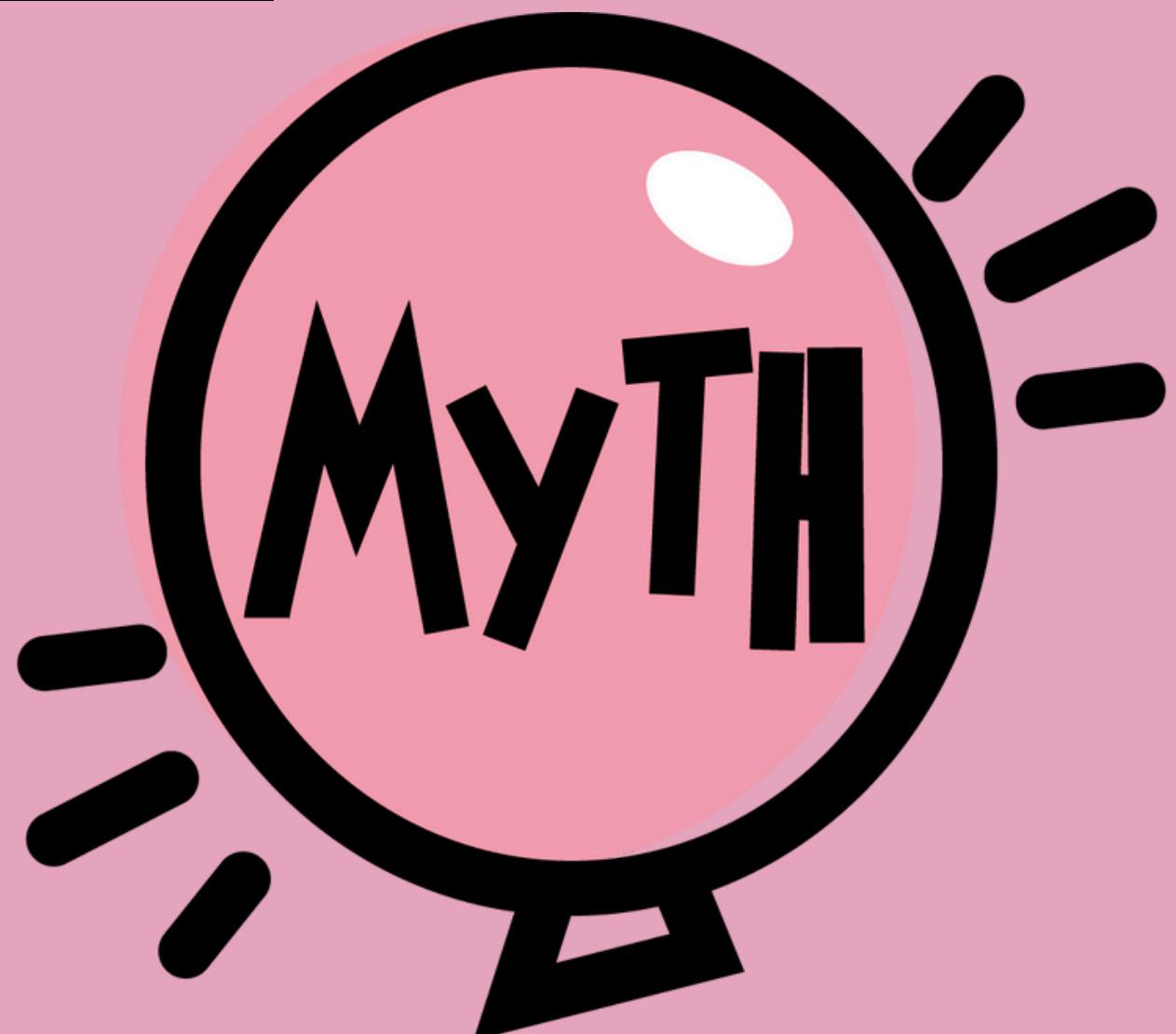
**FACT**

# MYTH OR FACT

## DOES THE HBV VACCINE LAST UP TO 15 YEARS?

### **The truth**

- According to the World Health Organization, The vaccine protects against hepatitis B for at least 20 years
- The immunity may wear off over time. If you have been vaccinated and are at risk of exposure to the virus, it may be worthwhile to have a discussion with a doctor about a blood test to determine if a booster shot is required.



# HUMAN PAPILLOMA VIRUS (HPV)

The human papilloma virus is remarkably common and can be dangerous. It is transmitted from sexual skin to skin contact.

## WHAT IS THE VACCINE?

- Recommended for 9-26 year olds.
- Consultation available for 27-45 year olds.
- Prevents new infections, doesn't treat existing ones.

## WHY GET THE VACCINE?

- Very common, and affect all.
- Vaccines prevent over 90% of HPV-related cancers.
- infections are managed within 2 years, but some strains can cause longer-lasting cancers.
- Spread via intimate skin-to-skin or sexual contact.

## SIGNS OF INFECTION CAN INCLUDE:

Genital HPV symptoms can include:

- Increased vaginal discharge, abnormal vaginal bleeding, longer or heavier menstrual periods, bleeding after menopause, and painful intercourse.
- Anal-genital warts are skin-colored or whitish bumps that show up on your vulva, vagina, cervix, penis, scrotum, or anus.

Oral HPV symptoms can include:

- Pain when chewing, chronic sore throat or cough, persistent hoarseness, numbness or tingling in the lips or tongue, one-sided earache, and drooling.

Some HPV infections can cause cancer, such as:

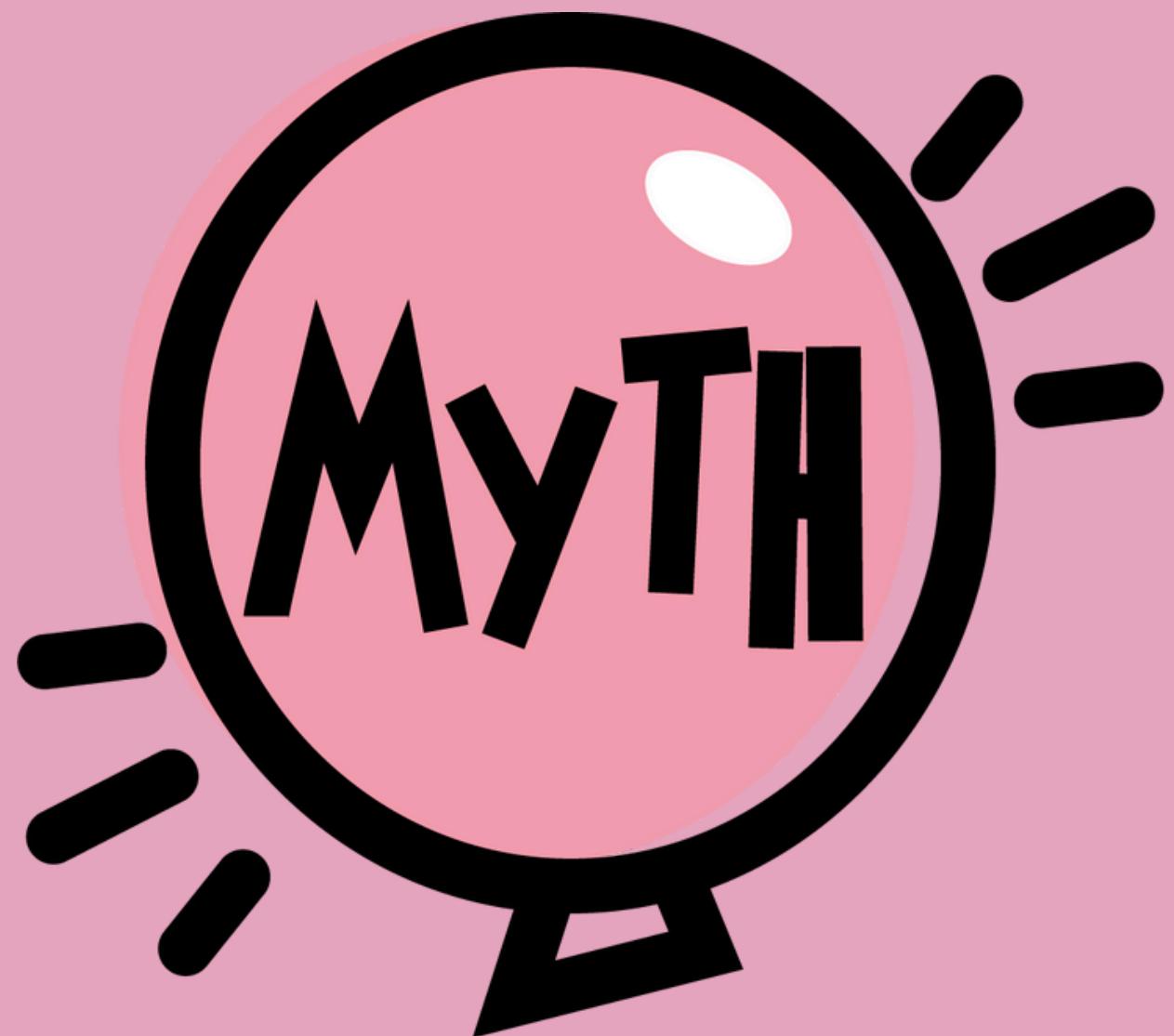
- Cervical, vaginal, and vulvar cancers
- Penile cancer
- Anal cancer
- Tonsil, tongue, and throat cancers

# MYTH OR FACT

**ANY SYMPTOMS OF HPV INFECTION WOULD SHOW UP WITHIN A FEW WEEKS.**

**The truth**

You could develop symptoms years after having intimate skin-to-skin contact with a person infected with HPV.



# MYTH OR FACT

**THE HPV VACCINE PROTECTS ME FOR AT LEAST 10 YEARS, BUT I MAY NEED A BOOSTER.**

## The truth

- Doctors anticipate the vaccine's effectiveness for at least 10 years, but if further studies show it's losing effectiveness, a booster may be necessary.

**FACT**

# WHERE TO GET TESTED

- Monroe County Public Health Clinic: (812) 353-3244
- Monroe County Health Department: (812) 349-2543
- Planned Parenthood - Bloomington Health Center:  
(800) 769-0045
- Futures Family Planning Clinic: (812) 349-7343
- MinuteClinic at CVS: (812) 349-7343
- Patient Service Center: (812) 339-8670
- Women's Care Center: (812) 330-7021
- IU Health Bloomington Remote Specimen Collection:  
(812)-331-3406
- HealthNet Bloomington Health Center: (812) 333-4001



# THANK YOU!



