

*We are offering this template as an example of an e-mail that you can send to the parents of your adolescent patients. The e-mail will inform parents of this important health information before their child's next visit.*

*You may download this file or copy the content and paste it into an e-mail to send to the parents of your adolescent patients.*

Subject:

Important Information from [Physician name/Practice name]

Dear [Parent/legal guardian name]:

We are committed to the health and well-being of your preteen or teen. For that reason, we want to make sure you know about 4 diseases that could affect them, today or in the future. Ask us about ways we can help protect against these diseases at your child's next visit.

**Human Papillomavirus (HPV)**

HPV is a virus that can cause cervical cancer in females and genital warts in males and females. Many people who have HPV don't even know it, because the virus often has no signs or symptoms.

**Meningococcal Disease (Meningitis)**

Bacterial meningitis is a very serious infection of the lining around the brain and spinal cord. Complications can lead to loss of limbs, brain damage, kidney disease, loss of hearing, and even death.

**Pertussis (Whooping Cough)**

Whooping cough is a highly contagious respiratory tract infection spread by coughing and sneezing. The infection often causes a lengthy illness that can lead to repeated doctor visits and missed school.

**Varicella (Chickenpox)**

Chickenpox is caused by the varicella zoster virus. It usually produces a fever and an itchy rash, which can turn into blisters. Adolescents and adults are at greater risk for severe disease and serious complications, but there is no way to predict who will have a mild or more serious case.

We think this information is important. As usual, feel free to call us with any questions or to make an appointment.

Sincerely,

[Doctor's Name]