

To: AmeriHealth Caritas Louisiana Providers

Date: January 17, 2023

Subject: Cervical Cancer Awareness Month

Summary: During Cervical Cancer Awareness Month, AmeriHealth Caritas Louisiana (ACLA) encourages you to help ensure your patients are up to date on recommended vaccines and screenings. Research has consistently shown that healthcare professionals are the most trusted source of vaccine information for parents and patients.

January is Cervical Cancer Awareness Month as recognized by The National Cervical Cancer Coalition. This can be a time to raise awareness about cervical cancer, Human Papillomavirus Infection (HPV) disease and the importance of getting screened. ⁽¹⁾

Recommendations

The U.S. Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF) recommends that an individual with a cervix aged 21-29 get cervical cancer screening with cytology alone, every 3 years. ⁽²⁾

Individuals aged 30-65 are recommended to screen every three years with cytology alone, every five years with HPV testing alone, or every five years with co-testing (HPV testing in combination with cytology). ⁽²⁾

What Can You Do?

Did you know that patients say they are more likely to have cancer screenings when their healthcare provider recommends it? ⁽³⁾

- Understand the power of healthcare provider recommendation
- Be aware of any potential cultural obstacles affecting your patients
- Measure screening rates in your practice
- Set goals to increase screening rates
- Develop reminder systems that remind you, your staff, and patients that screenings are due
- Utilize reports available in NaviNet to inform you of patients that are due
- Use cancer screenings as part of the vital signs assessment
- Emphasize the importance of not delaying screening and care
- Recommend HPV vaccine

Questions:

Thank you for your continued support and commitment to the care of our members. If you have questions about this communication, please contact AmeriHealth Caritas Louisiana's Provider Services department at 1-888-922-0007 or your [Provider Network Management Account Executive](#).

Missed an alert?

You can always find a complete listing of provider alerts on the [Newsletters and Updates](#) page of our website.

Need to update your provider information? Send full details to network@amerihealthcaritasla.com

Where can I find more information on COVID-19?

AmeriHealth Caritas Louisiana has updated its website to streamline communications and important notifications about COVID-19. Please visit <http://amerihealthcaritasla.com/covid-19> for up-to-date information for both providers and members, including frequently asked questions, cancellations and postponements, and important provider alerts from AmeriHealth Caritas Louisiana and the Louisiana Department of Health.

Works Cited

- 1 - <https://www.nccc-online.org/cervical-health-awareness-month>
- 2 - <https://www.uspreventiveservicestaskforce.org/uspstf/recommendation/cervical-cancer-screening>
- 3 - <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5518612/>