

UNITED STATES: "Men Need to be Alert for HPV Virus in Throat" KVUE.com

(02.08.13):: Mike Benner and Rich Kurz.

According to the American Cancer Society, doctors diagnose 11,000 new cases of human papillomavirus (HPV) each year. The virus can cause cervical cancer in women, and can potentially be as deadly for men. Men can contract HPV through oral sex, where it can lie dormant for years before possibly causing throat cancer. Doctors are currently seeing throat cancer more often in men who do not smoke. Dr. Erik Dierks of the Legacy Emanuel Medical Center strongly advocates the HPV vaccine, and urges parents to vaccinate their children. Some parents are reluctant to have their children vaccinated because of the vaccine's connection with sexual activity and because children need to be vaccinated at such a young age. Dierks notes that recommended ages for the vaccination are between 9 and 26 years for girls and between 9 and 21 for boys.