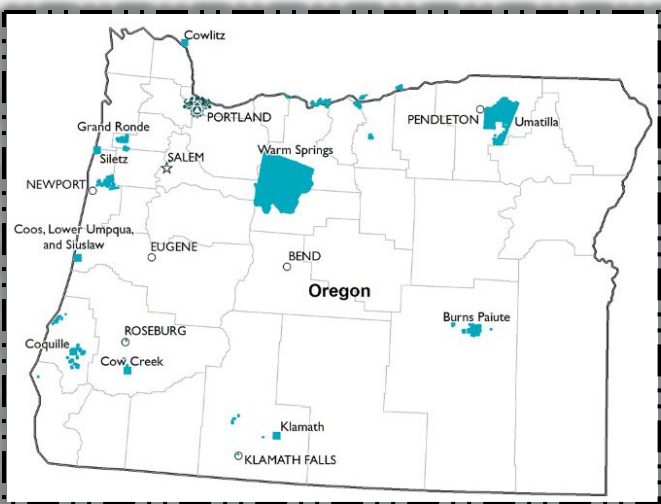


**Cancer Center Supplement to Partner with Comprehensive Cancer Control Coalitions to Study Implementation of Evidence-based Interventions**

**Oregon Health & Science University's Knight Cancer Institute**

**Catchment Area**

As the only NCI-Designated Comprehensive Cancer Center in Oregon, Knight Cancer Institute (the Knight) has always held outreach and engagement with our catchment area population as a core value and crucial metric of our success. The Knight is a matrix cancer center within Oregon Health & Science University (OHSU). The Knight's Community Outreach and Engagement (COE) program reports to the director and works hand in glove with the scientific programs to ensure catchment area needs inform all areas of research. The Knight's catchment area has a large geographic footprint with communities ranging from densely populated Portland to frontier regions of farmers, ranchers, and agricultural workers along the eastern border. Two-thirds of our 36 counties are categorized as "nonmetropolitan" (Rural-Urban Continuum codes 4–9), resulting in over a third of the population—including nine federally recognized Tribes—residing in rural or frontier areas with limited access to health care and prevention strategies.



**HPV Vaccination=Cancer Prevention**

Increasing awareness about the human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine, the relationship between HPV and cervical cancer, as well as cervical cancer risk factors within American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) populations are the main aims of this collaboration. The project builds upon and extends a well-established, bidirectional partnership between the Knight and the Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board's (NPAIHB) Northwest Tribal Comprehensive Cancer Program (NTCCP).

**At a Glance**

**Specific Aim 1. Update and disseminate culturally relevant provider-facing HPV resources.**

- a. Update the Indian Health Service (IHS) HPV Best Practices Guide to reflect updated evidence-based guidelines.
- b. Reduce HPV-related cervical cancer by educating IHS providers about updated cervical cancer screening guidelines.

**Specific Aim 2. Develop or adapt and disseminate culturally relevant community-facing HPV education.**

- a. Create new and/or adapt existing HPV vaccination materials to be culturally appropriate.
- b. Broadly disseminate tailored materials to Tribes statewide and measure reach.

**Collaborators**

Oregon is home to nine federally recognized Tribes, and most are located in rural regions (see map of Tribes). NPAIHB is a regional nonprofit organization that

represents and serves the 43 federally recognized Tribes of the Pacific Northwest. Working in partnership with the Knight are the leads at NPAIHB's NTCCP.



## The Approach

**METHODS:** We reviewed available literature in order to identify AI/AN attitudes about HPV vaccination and cervical cancer prevention as well as messaging or educational approaches being used about these topics in Indian Country. While there are few published studies about HPV vaccination among AI/ANs, we found a systematic review presenting the state of the science about this population.

NPAIHB's Northwest Tribal Epidemiology Center provided AI/AN HPV vaccination series completion rates to include in the IHS HPV Best Practices Guide. Additionally, the principal investigator (PI) contributed unpublished data as well as lived experience as a busy gynecology oncologist for orienting this collaboration about how to update the IHS HPV Best Practices Guide for other busy providers.

Background information about HPV and the HPV vaccine was updated (original publication date was 2016) and cited. HPV-related cancer rates of Pacific Northwest AI/ANs are included in this version of the IHS HPV Best Practices Guide. Since IHS abides by Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidance, frequently asked questions from their HPV-related websites were utilized.

Otherwise, we chose to limit the sources cited or communicated. American Academy of Pediatrics resources, facts, and strategies were included as was a five-step process for improving HPV vaccination rates from the National Foundation for Infectious Diseases.

**PROJECT ACTIVITIES:** The NPAIHB and Knight teams met regularly to hear about Guide updates and upcoming Tribal and Tribal cancer coalition opportunities for the PI to present updated cervical cancer screening and treatment recommendations, as well as to strategize around the community-directed and -responsive aim 2.

NPAIHB contracted with Buffalo Nickel Creative (an Indigenous-owned and -operated media production company) and an AI/AN curriculum developer, all of whom are collaborating with a Tribe interested in designing and developing a youth-driven HPV vaccination campaign in their region of the state.

**PURPOSE:** The previous version of the IHS HPV Best Practices Guide was last updated in 2016, prior to nationally revised recommendations, including vaccinating individuals up to age 45, changes in vaccine dosage from three shots to two, and changes to cervical cancer screening timelines. Neither AI/AN-specific data nor AI/AN-relevant research was offered to providers in the Guide's previous version. Our intention is to eliminate cervical cancer in Tribal regions by offering culturally responsive educational materials and initiatives, inclusive of AI/AN-specific data, to providers, patients, and families.

**OUTCOMES:** The combination of a research-related and community-based approach to the IHS HPV Best Practices Guide's updates has resulted in a more concise Guide, inclusive of cited sources, for busy providers. The collaborative relationship between the Knight and NPAIHB allowed for the flexibility to leverage a creative, local process to develop, design, and implement youth-led HPV vaccination efforts that draw from the Guide's evidence.

## Implementation Guidance

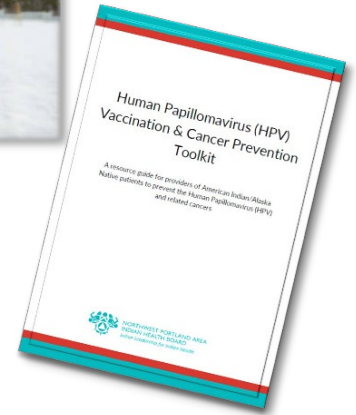
### Implementation Tip

NPAIHB NTCCP's cancer coalition is composed of Tribal medical providers from each NPAIHB-represented Tribe. This cancer coalition is one of the most effective systems supporting dissemination to Tribal providers in Oregon.

Find and hire Indigenous-run companies that can be responsive to the target population (Tribal members and leaders) with materials or images that Tribal members have identified as communicating a message of Tribal importance and relevance.

### Sustainability Plans

While one of the NPAIHB NTCCP leads is retiring, Knight COE and other NTCCP leads have scheduled a monthly meeting to ensure we maintain regular contact, receive status updates, and are aware of additional opportunities to align cancer prevention and control efforts. NTCCP is already aligned with the state's comprehensive cancer plan team, the support of which is on Knight COE's agenda for active engagement.



## Find Out More

This project was funded through an administrative supplement from the National Cancer Institute to the Oregon Health & Science University's Knight Cancer Institute—3P30CA069533- 23S4.

"We won't rest until cancer is defeated.":

<https://www.ohsu.edu/knight-cancer-institute>

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## Cancer Center Supplement to Partner with Comprehensive Cancer Control Coalitions to Study Implementation of Evidence-based Interventions

National Cancer Institute (NCI)-Designated Cancer Centers' community outreach and engagement (COE) efforts should span all cancer center programs, including basic, clinical, translational, and population research. The FY21 COE supplement is designed to increase COE activities and partnerships among center staff and comprehensive cancer control coalitions. The long-term goal is to build greater connections between cancer centers and state, Tribe, territory, and Pacific Island Jurisdiction-level coalitions that will lead to smoother translation of center research findings and products into use in clinical and community settings.

To learn more, visit us at: <https://cancercontrol.cancer.gov/research-emphasis/supplement/coe>