MARS VS. VENUS Gender Impacts Preventive Health, Too

In a national survey of parents of teens, teens and the healthcare providers who serve teens, clear gender differences were found in how parents communicate health information to boys and girls as well as how teenage boys and girls think about their own health

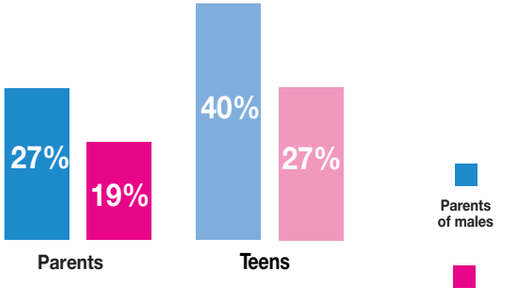
teens believe

83%	68%	I need my parents to help me stay healthy
65%	49%	Parents should give me more of a voice in healthcare decisions about me
52%	35%	I don't see why I should see a doctor if I feel healthy
32%	23%	The things I do now will not have a big effect on my health in the future

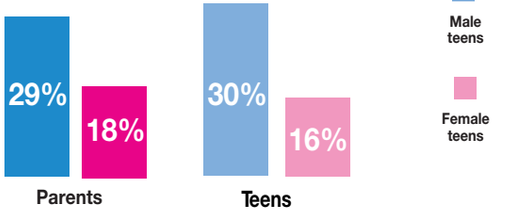
parents say

90%	85%	I am currently more responsible for (son/daughter)'s health
42%	34%	Things my (son/daughter) does now will not have a big effect on his/her health in the future
38%	30%	I don't see why my (son/daughter) should see a healthcare provider if he/she feels healthy

Current Perspectives May Hinder Vaccination From Being a Priority For All Teens



Vaccines are for babies, not as important for teens



I don't know how being vaccinated helps him/her

Make sure all adolescents are UP TO DATE with their vaccinations

The CDC recommends adolescents receive vaccines to protect against HPV, tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis (whooping cough), meningitis, and flu

Immunizers

Set up a reminder system especially for 11-12 and 16-year old visits

- Tailor your discussion based on gender and age so you are best understood by the teen
- Employ our validated intervention program that helps improve healthcare provider's communication around recommended vaccines (called the Three Cs) available on the Unity site, Unity4TeenVax.org

Parents and Teens

Make appointments for annual check-ups especially at 11-12 and 16-years of age when vaccines are routinely given

- Learn more about the benefits of vaccination on the Unity site, Unity4TeenVax.org
- When speaking with your teen, think about his/her perspective on taking responsibility for his/her health

UNITY
United for adolescent vaccination

As one strong voice, Unity Consortium addresses the challenges surrounding adolescent and young adult health, with a goal of ensuring 9 in 10 are fully vaccinated against preventable diseases.
For more information, visit Unity4TeenVax.org

This Unity survey was supported by Pfizer Inc., a member of Unity Consortium. The survey was conducted online by Harris Poll in 2016 among 506 teens aged 13-18, 515 parents of teens, and 405 primary care physicians.
For complete survey methodology, please contact Unity.