

**Department of Legislative Services**  
Maryland General Assembly  
2018 Session

**FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE**  
**First Reader**

House Bill 34 (Delegate Angel)  
Health and Government Operations

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**Public Health - Disease Control and Prevention - HPV Screening Tests**

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This bill requires a specified “health care practitioner” who offers a screening test to a man for a “sexually transmitted infection” (STI) to also offer a screening test for human papillomavirus (HPV) at the same time. In offering a screening test for HPV, the “health care practitioner” must inform the individual about the risks associated with HPV.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** The Maryland Department of Health (MDH) advises that there is no HPV screening test currently available for men; thus, there is no immediate fiscal or operational effect on State agencies. To the extent that a test becomes available in the future, general fund expenditures for MDH increase to provide testing.

**Local Effect:** No immediate fiscal or operational effect on local health departments (LHDs). To the extent that a test becomes available in the future, LHD expenditures increase to provide testing.

**Small Business Effect:** Minimal.

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**Analysis**

**Bill Summary:** “Health care practitioner” means an individual licensed under the Health Occupations Article who provides screening tests for an STI and HPV under the individual’s scope of practice.

**Current Law/ Background:** The Secretary of Health is broadly responsible for adopting rules and regulations to prevent the introduction and spread of infectious or contagious

diseases in the State. There are reporting and investigation requirements for physicians and other health care providers for various specific diseases. Individuals can receive free or reduced-cost STI screening at LHDs and clinics. For individuals with health insurance, the insurance company is billed. Uninsured individuals are charged on a sliding-fee scale based on ability to pay.

According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), HPV is the most common STI. About 79 million Americans are currently infected with HPV. About 14 million people become newly infected each year. Almost every person who is sexually active will get HPV at some time in their life if they do not get the HPV vaccine. There are many different types of HPV, some of which can cause genital warts and cancer. There is no test to find out a person's "HPV status," and there is no approved test to screen for HPV in the mouth, throat, or penis. There are HPV tests to screen for HPV-related cancers in women. These tests are only recommended for screening in women aged 30 and older. HPV screening tests are not recommended to screen men, adolescents, or women younger than age 30.

CDC recommends that children aged 11 to 12 get two doses of the HPV vaccine to protect against cancers caused by HPV. Additionally, CDC recommends catch-up vaccines for boys and men through age 21 and for girls and women through age 26, if they did not get vaccinated when they were younger.

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### **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; Maryland Association of County Health Officers; Maryland Department of Health; Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 14, 2018  
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