

# 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

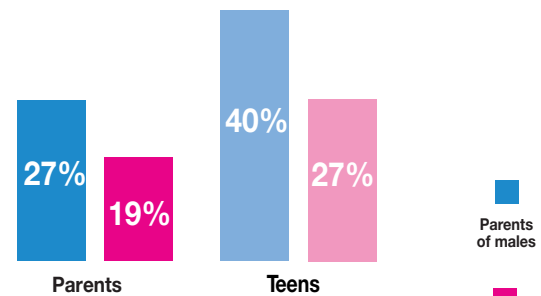
|     |     |                                                                           |
|-----|-----|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 83% | 68% | I need my parents to help me stay healthy                                 |
| 65% | 49% | Parents should give 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 |



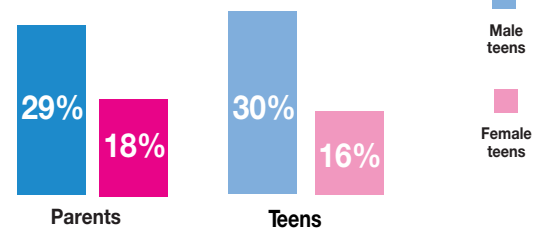
## parents say

|     |     |                                                                                              |
|-----|-----|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 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](http://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](http://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](http://Unity4TeenVax.org)

About the Survey: This Harris Poll was supported by Pfizer Inc., a member of Unity Consortium. The survey was fielded from September 26 to October 7, 2016 among 506 teens aged 13-18, 515 parents aged 18+ with a child between the ages of 13-18, 105 pharmacists, and 405 physicians who specialized in either family practice, general practice, internal medicine or pediatrics, were duly licensed, spent 50% or more time in out-patient practice and 80% or more time in direct patient care, see at least 250 patients, on average, in a month, and regularly see teens for well visits. For complete survey methodology, including weighting variables, please contact Unity.