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HPV DOCUMENTARY AND PANEL DISCUSSION ON FEB. 11



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A “community conversation” about Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) and the vaccine that prevents many of the cancers it causes in men and women will take place from 6 to 9 PM on Thursday, Feb. 11 in St. Petersburg.

The event will consist of a showing of the documentary [*Someone You Love: The HPV Epidemic*](#) followed by a panel discussion with physicians and other health professionals who will answer questions from attendees. Both events will be held at the Grand Ballroom of the Hilton St. Petersburg Bayfront, 333 1st St. S., in downtown St. Petersburg.

The events are free and open to the public, but onsite parking at the Hilton has a \$12 charge. For information about on-street parking and nearby parking garages, go to the City of St. Petersburg’s site at http://www.stpete.org/visiting_the_city/where_to_park.php.

Someone You Love: The HPV Epidemic follows five women affected by the various cancers caused by HPV. According to the filmmakers, “(HPV) may be the most widespread, misunderstood and potentially dangerous epidemic that most people hardly know anything about.”

About 80 percent of all people under 50 years of age will have a strain of the virus at some point in their lives. Cervical cancer is commonly caused by HPV, which also causes cancers in men. The HPV vaccine should be given to preteens when they enter middle school, but Florida’s rates are among the lowest in the nation.

The community conversation is part of the two-day HPV Summit on Feb. 11-12 for health-care professionals at the Hilton St. Petersburg Bayfront. The summit has a \$140 registration fee. For information, go to <http://stellared.learningexpressce.com/index.cfm?fa=view&eventID=4841>.

The events are presented by the Pinellas Immunizations Team for Community Health and community partners that include Moffitt Cancer Center, the Florida Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics and the National Meningitis Foundation. For information about the community conversation or the summit, email PITCHNews@outlook.com

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