



Contact: Reese Stone or Alisa Mosley  
202-347-1895

## NMA Endorses the Use of HPV Vaccine

Washington, DC, March 6, 2007... The National Medical Association (NMA) issued a statement today strongly encouraging “the appropriate use of the Human Papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine, but believes that patient participation should be voluntary.” The current recommendations for the use of the HPV vaccine for young girls and women 9 to 26 years of age, as a means of preventing cervical cancer, is supported. “However, at this time, we do not endorse mandatory HPV vaccination,” said Albert W. Morris, M.D., President of the NMA. “We acknowledge that HPV is the most common sexually transmitted infection in the U.S. and is associated with genital and cervical cancer which makes it a significant public health concern. The decision to require this vaccine for adolescents, 11 to 12 years of age, should be one left to parents, after appropriate education regarding risk and benefits, rather than mandating it through the legislative process,” concluded Morris.

###