

# ALL ABOUT HPV FOR TEENS

EASY  
CLEAR  
ENGAGING

# COOL! AS





# COOLIAS

THE COMIC BOOK

2023





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**Cooltas was produced within**

**the Mallow Teens Programme**



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**Publisher: Mallow Flower Foundation 2023**

**English proofreading: Beth Green**

ENGAGe TEENs project empowers girls and boys from ages 13-19 to spread awareness about Human Papillomavirus/HPV, cervical cancer and the HPV vaccine to the youth of the world.

The aim of the project is prevention of HPV, including cervical cancer and other HPV related cancers, and getting more teens to get the HPV vaccine. The reason that it should be teens reaching out to other teens is because they understand each other and know how to communicate with each other. Teens connect with and listen to their peers more than they would with adults.

**ENGAGe TEENs**   
**ESGO** | European Network of Gynaecological  
 Cancer Advocacy Groups

**The original comic book is created by the  
 Mallow Flower Foundation (Hungary), member of ENGAGe**



# COOLTAS

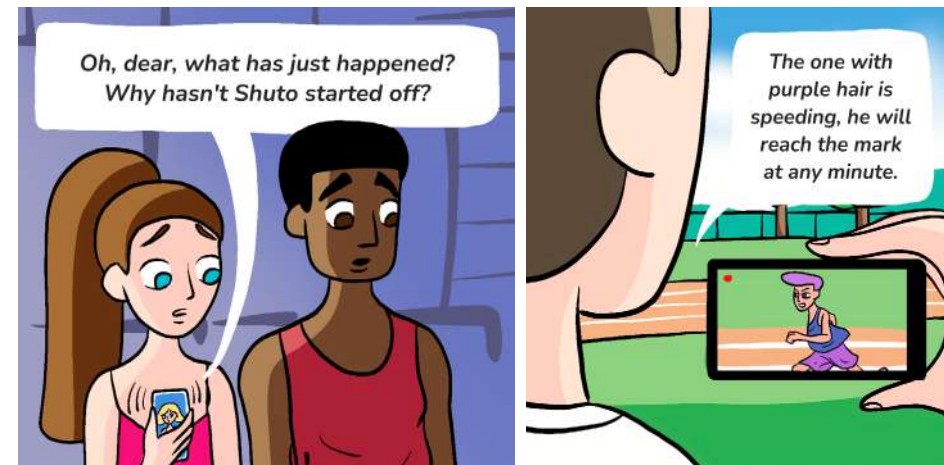
The new school year has just started. Kids and teachers are gathering to watch the star athletes compete. The stakes are high, the winners will secure a place on the schools' team.

One of the favorites is Shuto, who has been winning gold medals in a row for years. He is very popular among the kids.

Now, he has to bring his A-game at the competition, as rumour has it, there is a new kid in the school who is also after the highest place on the podium.







Our No.1 character, Shuto, is a straight-A student, whom everyone can rely on. We wouldn't think that he could get into trouble, but life might throw him a curveball as well.

Shuto





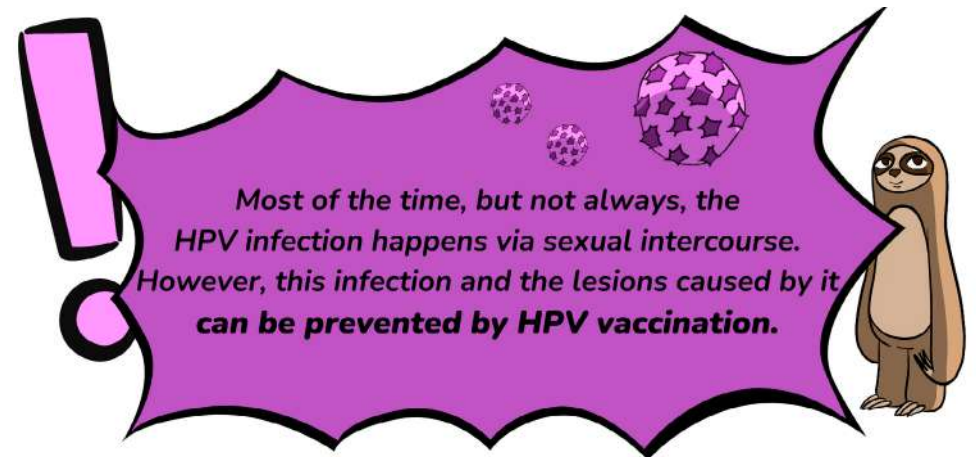
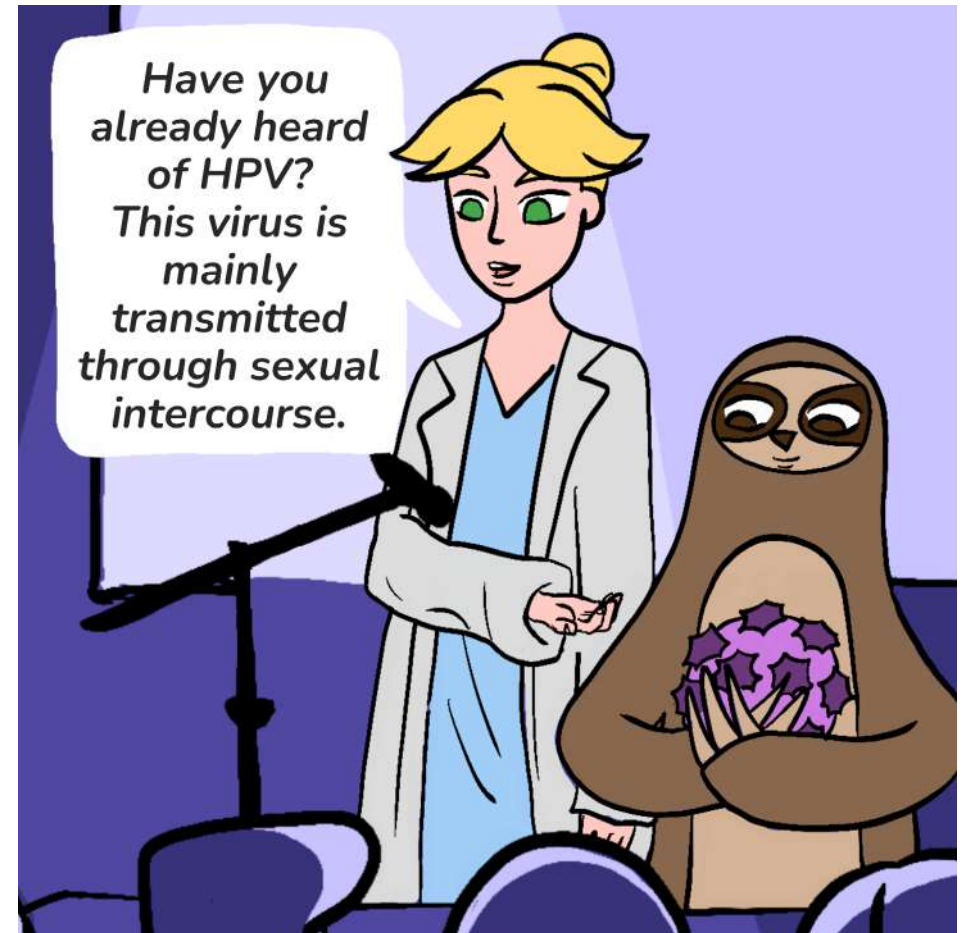
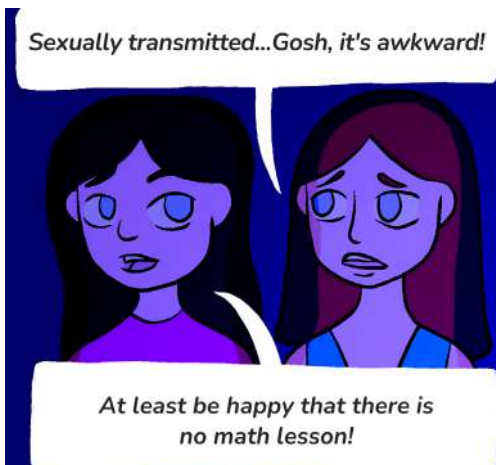
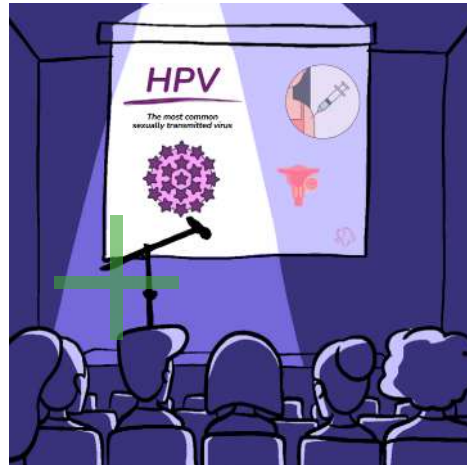


Something is off with the new kid.  
Has he really been responsible for Shuto's  
epic failure at the competition? Or are Shuto's friends  
just ready to blame him because they can't stand his  
arrogant style? Were the pliers in his locker by coincidence?

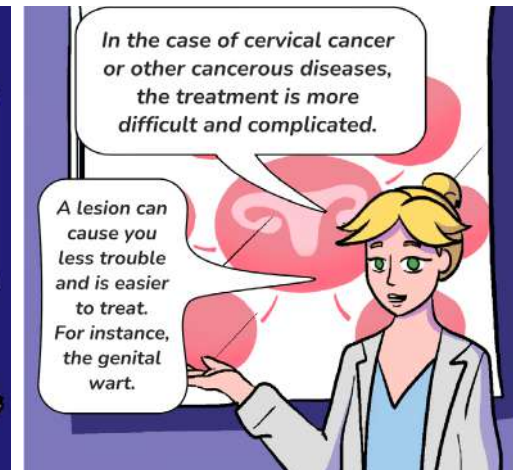
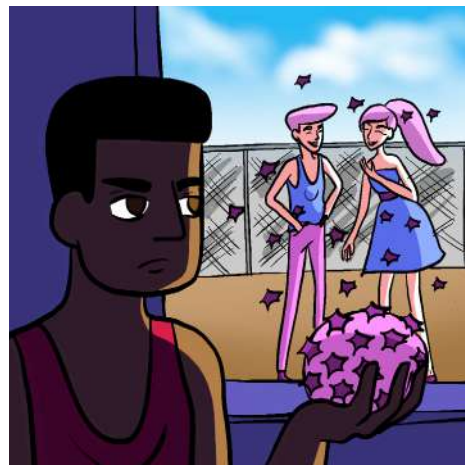
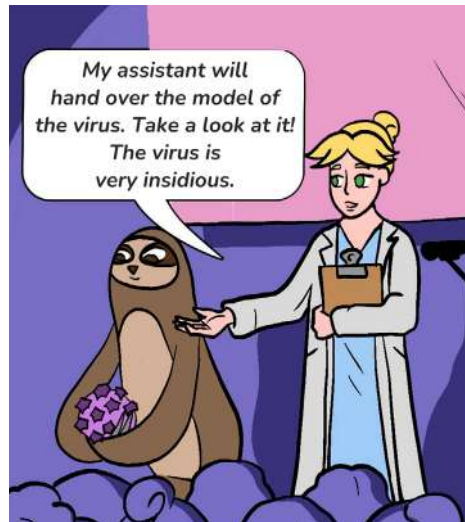
Who knows...



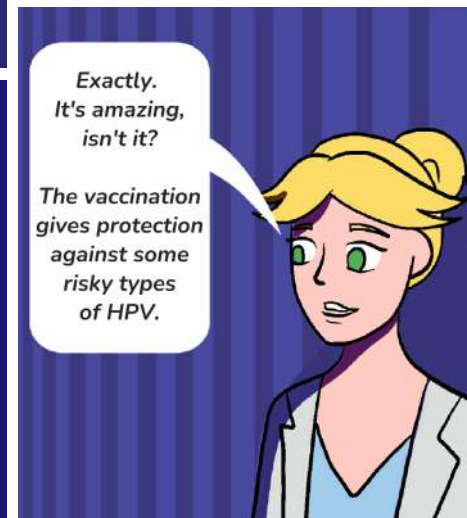
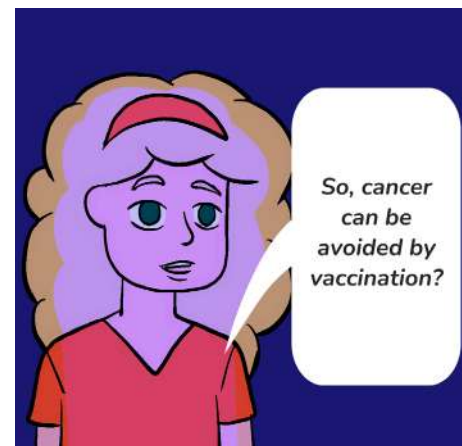
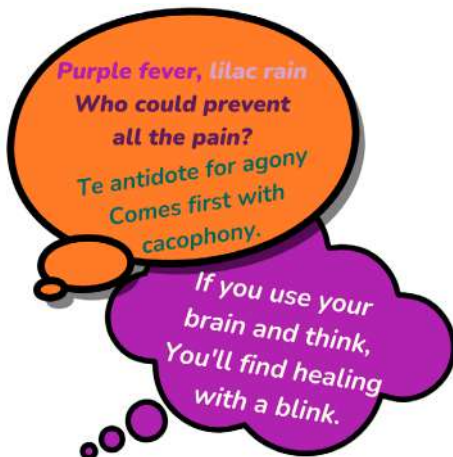














**SLOWY**

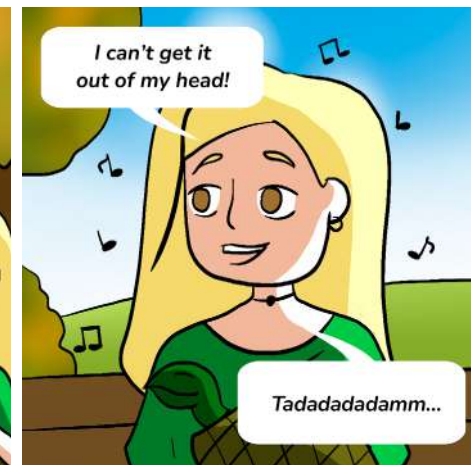
Slowy, who is the assistant of Dr. Pixie, knows a lot about HPV. When he appears, he always brings us important information.



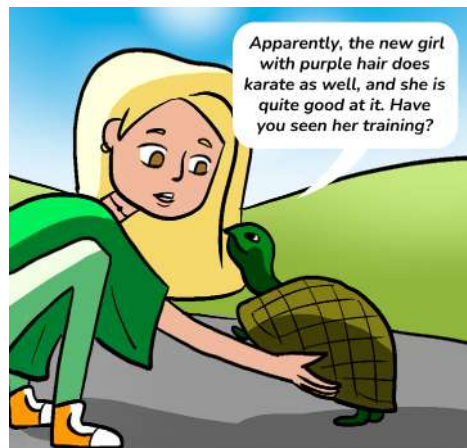
Sophie is the captain of the school's dance group, the May Flowers. They train very hard and as a result, they get invited to perform at events nationwide, so only the best of the best can be part of the team. Auditions are held only once a year, so no surprise, It's a real privilege to join them.











Sophie and Vavi have been best friends since kindergarten. Since Vavi won a scholarship at a prestigious school in New York, they hardly have any time to chat. They're both missing each other, but the time difference and their busy schedules makes it difficult for them to keep in touch.



**Sophie**

Sophie, our other main character, is also someone who is loved and well-respected in the school. She spent so much time together with Shuto during the summer that everyone thought they would become a couple. Well, it didn't happen in the end...







Aaaauuuuch!  
It hurts,  
stop it!



Well,  
goodbye then!



What's up, Shuto? Did you  
get lost? Or you're  
changing a sports activity?

Weeeeellll.....



Oh, ladies, continuously  
reading! You're going to  
destroy those beautiful  
eyes of yours  
in the end.



I would be happy to  
teach you something  
more interesting. Right  
now I'm free. So, who is  
the first applicant?



Well, well....are you  
following me, Shuto?




This is the school  
I go to.

As far as I know, you  
haven't enrolled in the  
karate class yet.








**No need to be scared of the HPV vaccination!** In recent years, more than 200 million jabs have been given to people and research shows that side effects appeared only on rare occasions. Even when they did, they were very mild. These possible side effects could be itching or swelling at the location of the injection. Occasionally people have a temperature, a headache or feel some dizziness or sickness. Occasionally means that out of 1000 people only 1 would be affected. Under the age of 15 two vaccinations need to be taken within a year, over the age of 15 three vaccinations are recommended.





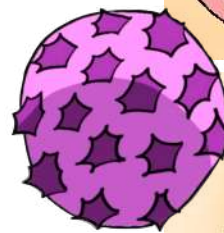
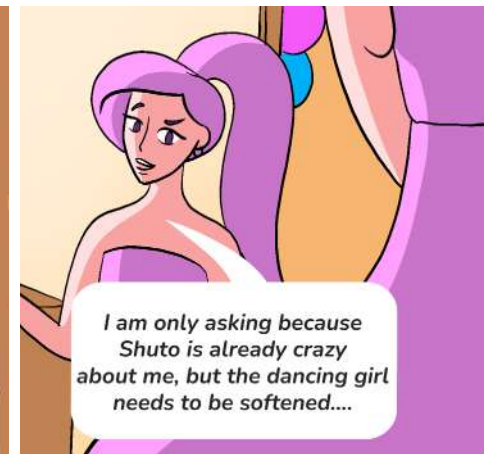
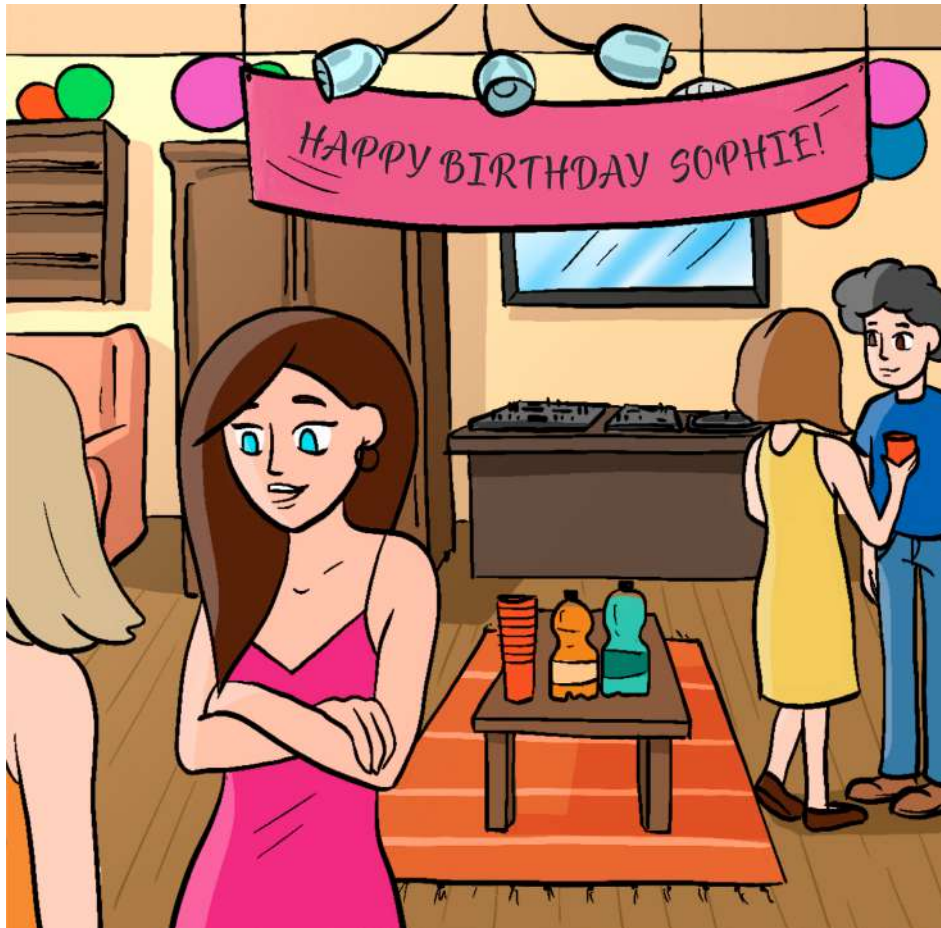

Jimmy, Shuto's best friend, takes good care of his health. He eats well, includes lots of fruits and vegetables in his diet, tries to avoid sugary foods and drinks and works out regularly.

Jimmy

COOLTAS















Do you fancy trying out Jimmy's favourite milkshake? It's easy to prepare and you only need:

- 1 ripened avocado
- 1 ripened banana
- 3 dl (300 mg) milk



After blending the above together, the super-healthy vitamin-bomb is ready to drink!



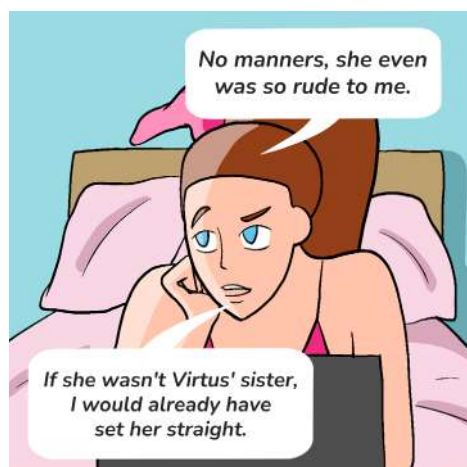
Happy birthday, Sophie!  
How are you?  
How was the party?

It was fantastic.  
But I missed you.



It's a shame  
I couldn't be there!  
Tell me everything!

Everybody came.  
Even that pompous  
Virola.



No manners, she even  
was so rude to me.

If she wasn't Virtus' sister,  
I would already have  
set her straight.



Right, let's talk about  
the main thing.  
What about Virtus?  
Did he like your outfit?



Well....it looks like it.  
Vavi, he is so  
handsome!

We even made a selfie,  
I am just gonna send it to  
you. What do you think?



Yes, he looks good,  
but you know it's not  
all about the looks.

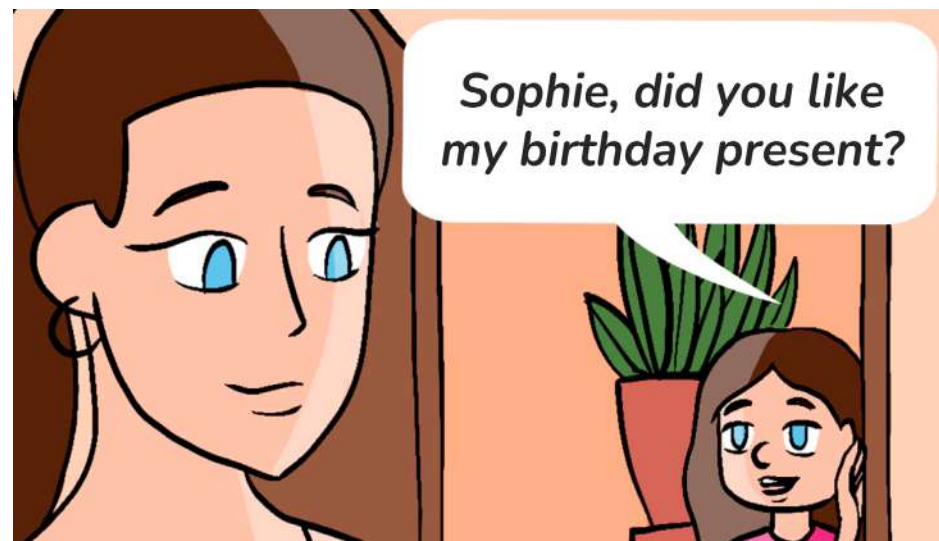


You sound like my  
grandma! Virtus is  
really kind, he even  
brought me flowers,  
and he is a lot more  
mature than the rest of  
the guys at school.



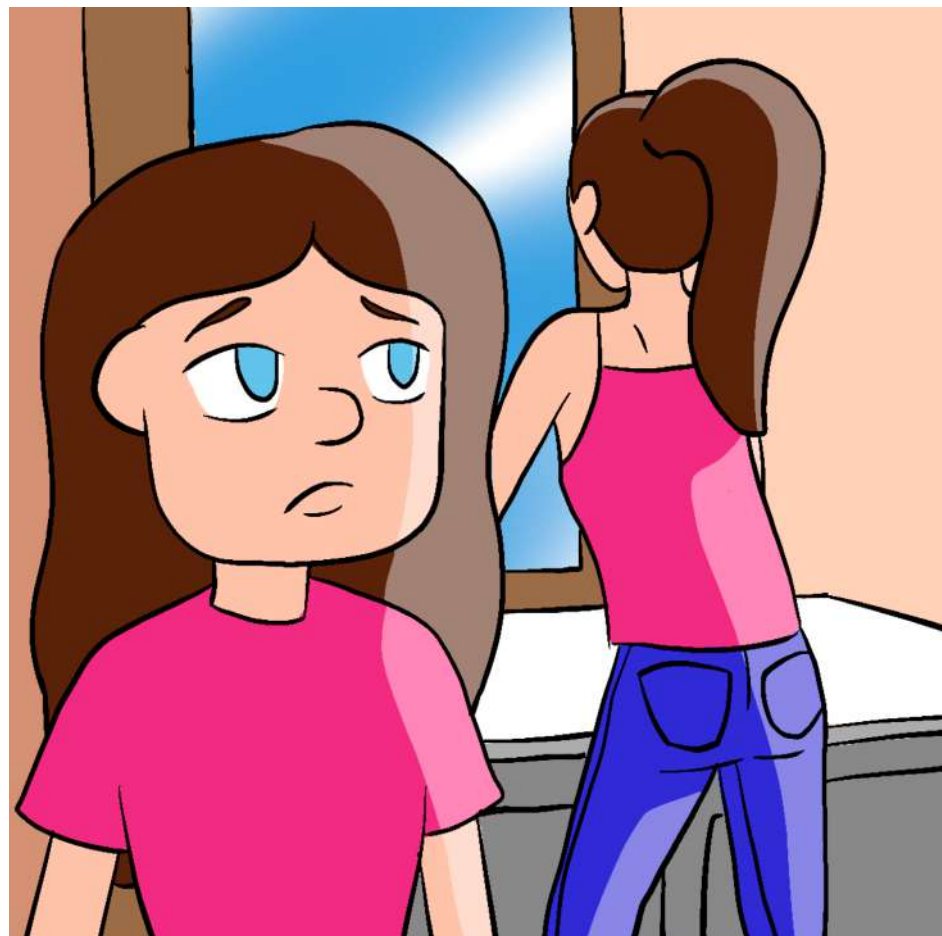
Have you made up your mind  
on Shuto then? Is he going to  
be dumped?

For sure.  
Let him be happy with  
Virola!



Sophie, did you like  
my birthday present?

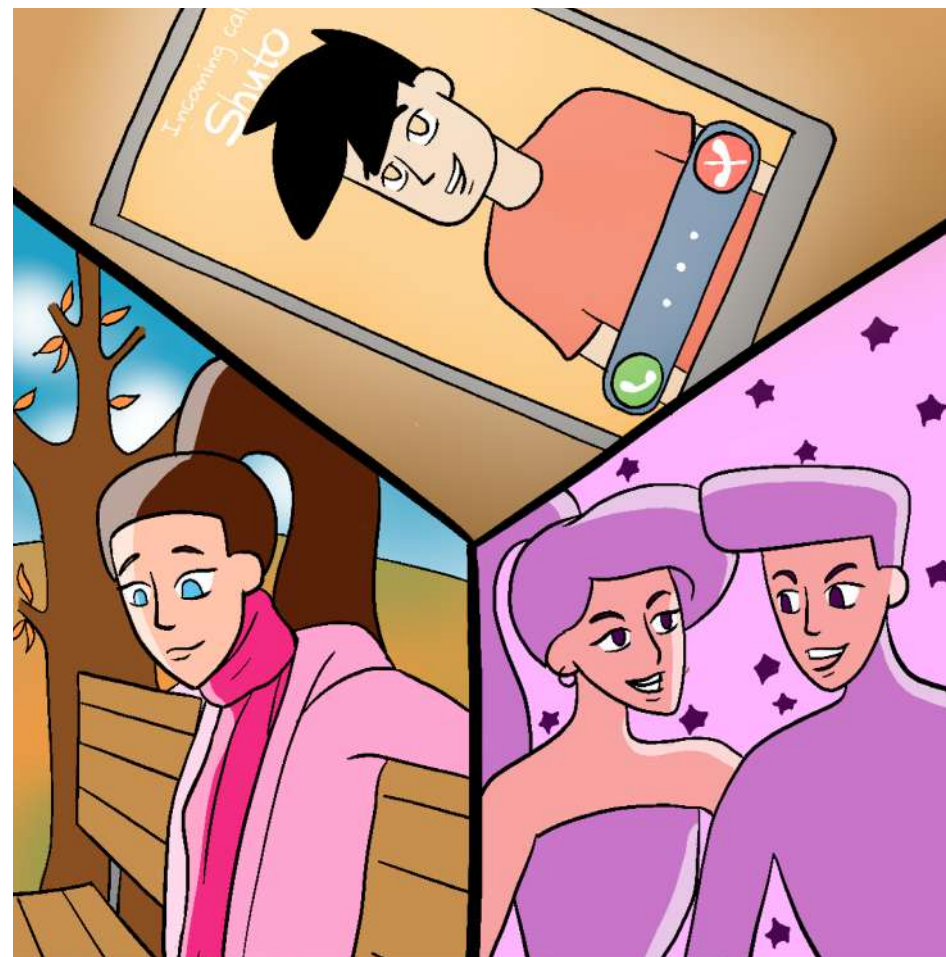
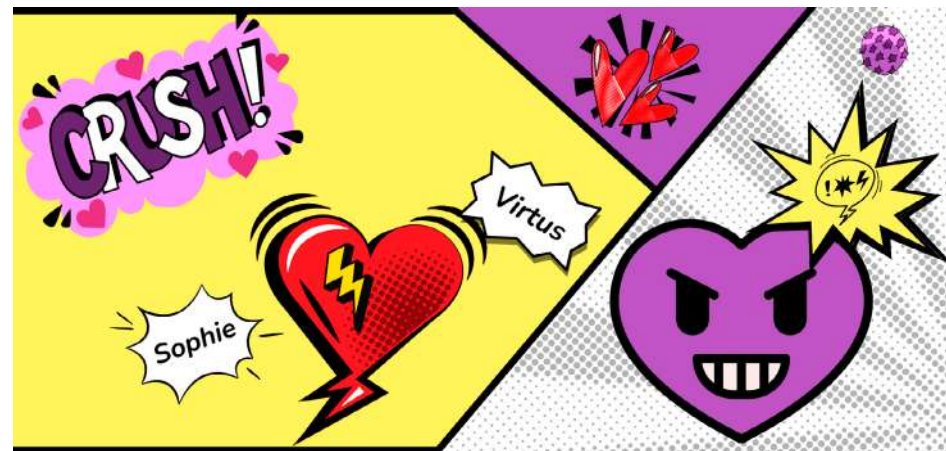
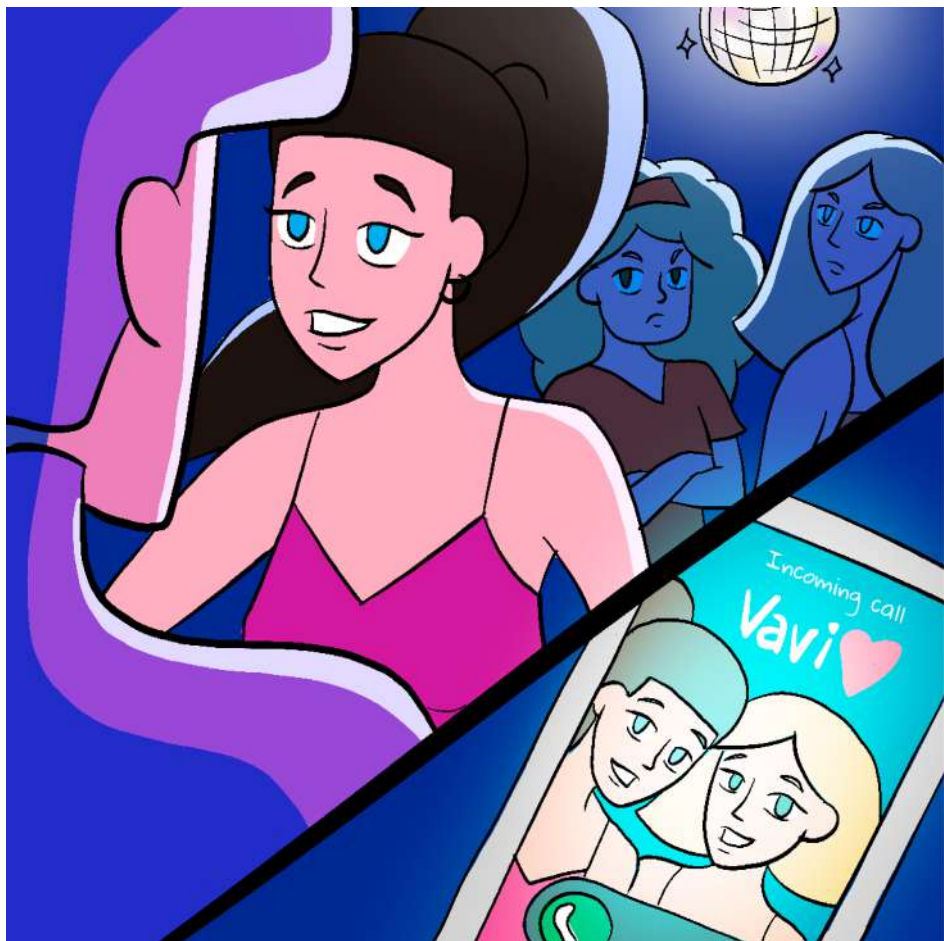




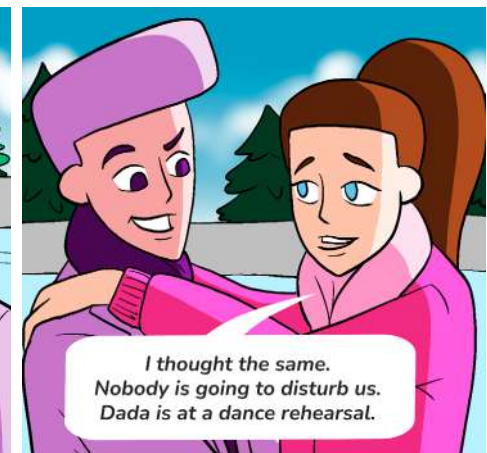
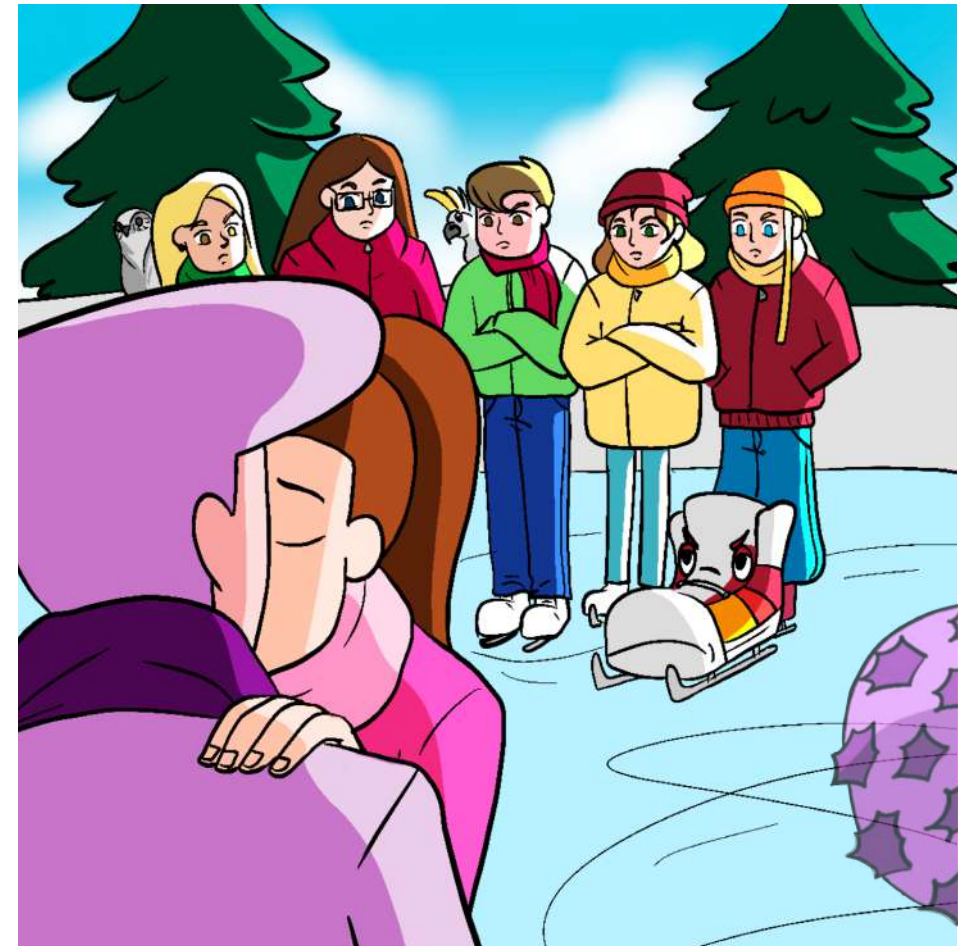
Dr. Pixie's daughter, Vavi is not following in her Mom's footsteps and won't become a doctor. She's studying Diplomacy in the United States while she's trying to keep in touch with her friends at home.















Introducing the new generation of dancers! These three girls have undeniable talent and big plans for the future, but they need Sophie's help to become as great as they want to be.







While Sophie is still blinded by love, Shuto already has to face the consequences of the night he spent at the party with Virola. How much trouble is he in? Hopefully he'll get the help he needs.







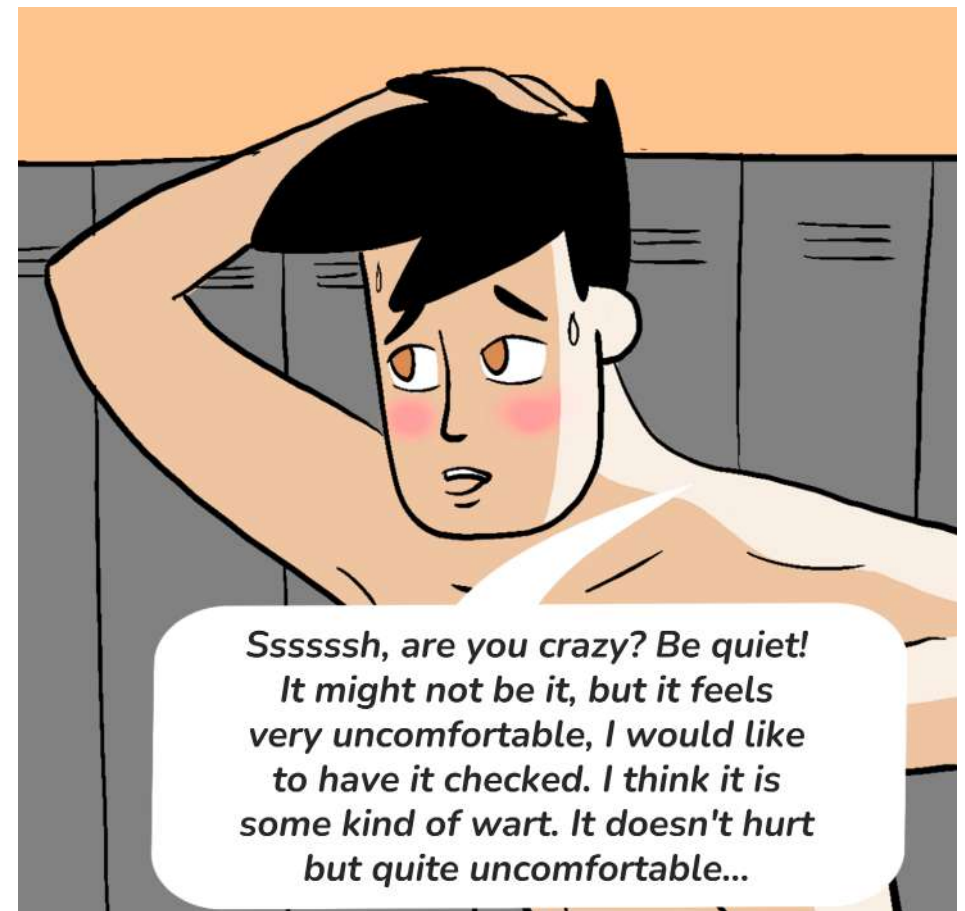
Huhhh... It's very embarrassing...  
You know, I ended up with a girl  
not long ago...



...and you know, we were together...  
...and then...how to say it, something appeared  
on me that I hadn't had before...  
...you know, down there...



**I knew! Virola infected  
you with some kind of  
genital disease.**



**Ssssssh, are you crazy? Be quiet!  
It might not be it, but it feels  
very uncomfortable, I would like  
to have it checked. I think it is  
some kind of wart. It doesn't hurt  
but quite uncomfortable...**



Applause! Sophie is ticked off. The next  
can come! You thought that you had  
already won our bet, hadn't you?



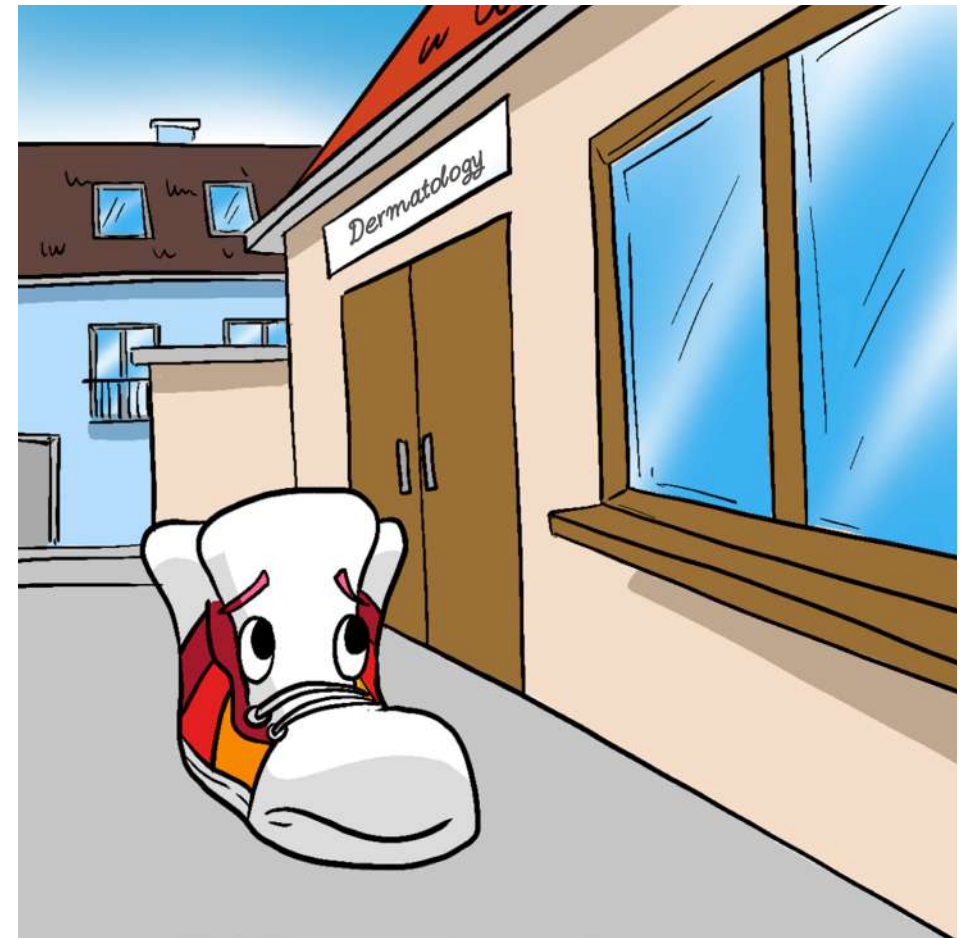
When will you acknowledge that  
I am better than you? I was faster  
with Shuto...

True, but my case was  
more difficult!

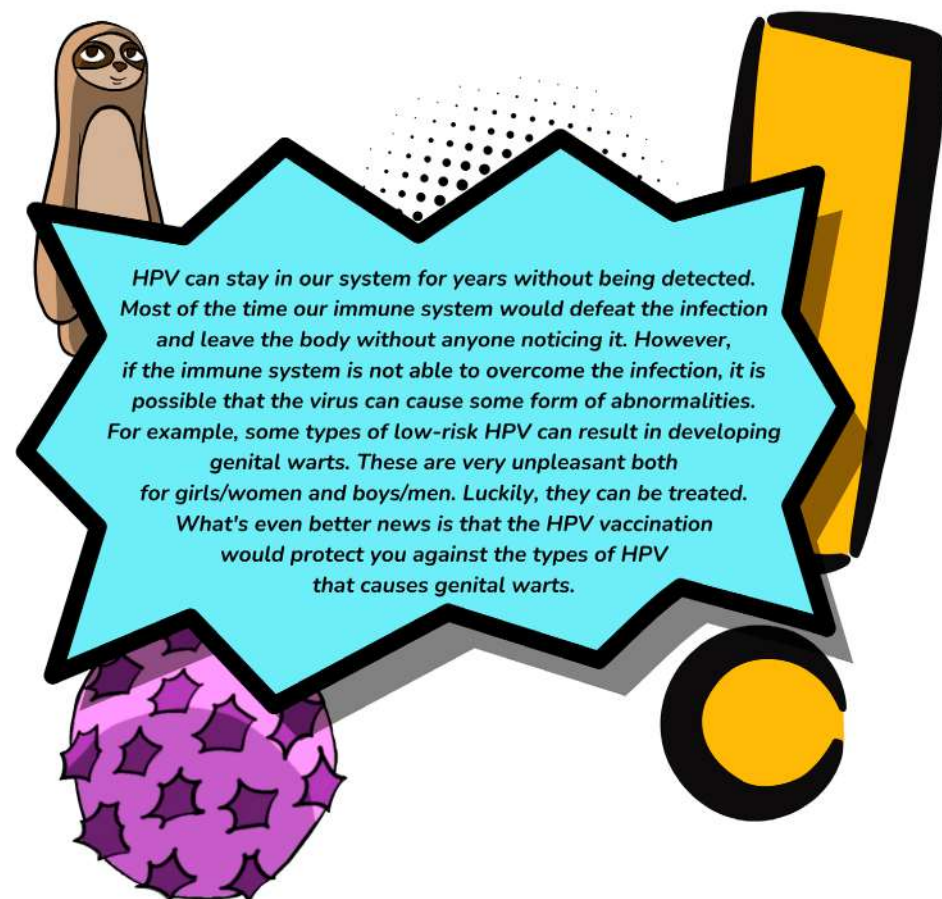








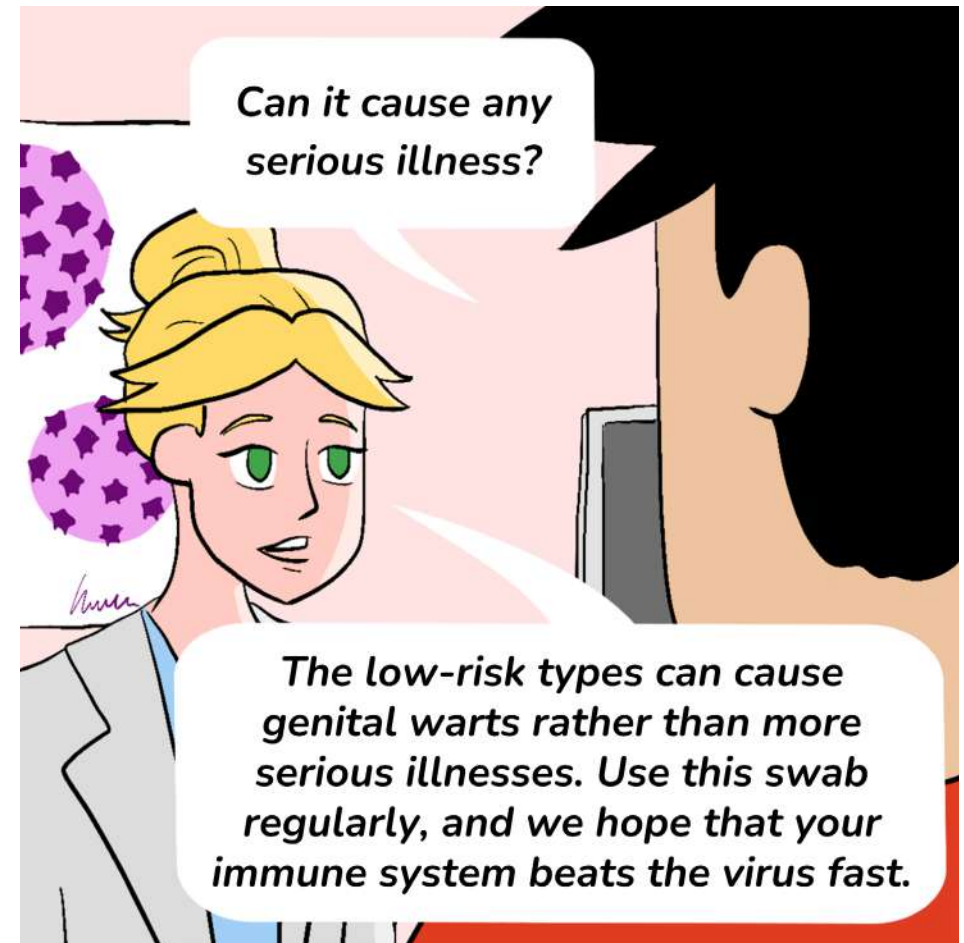
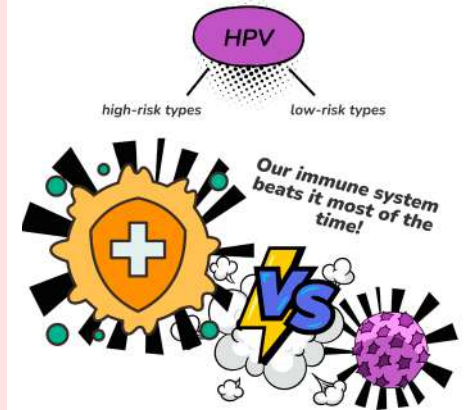
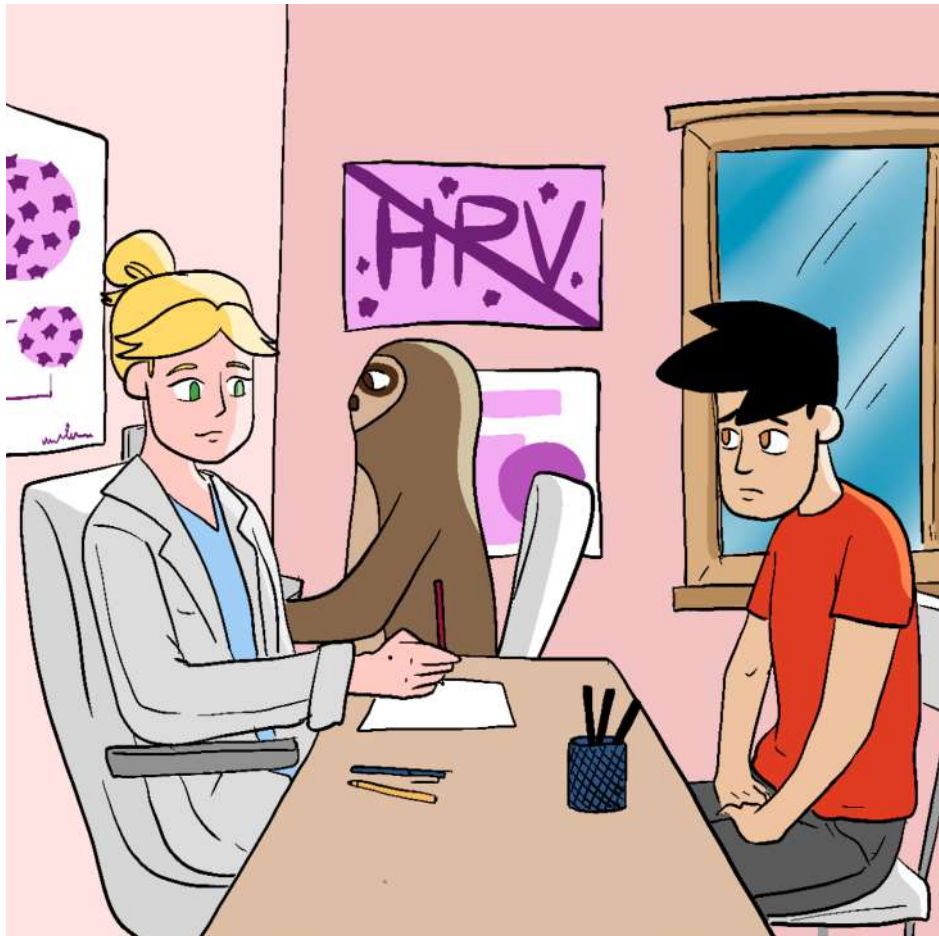




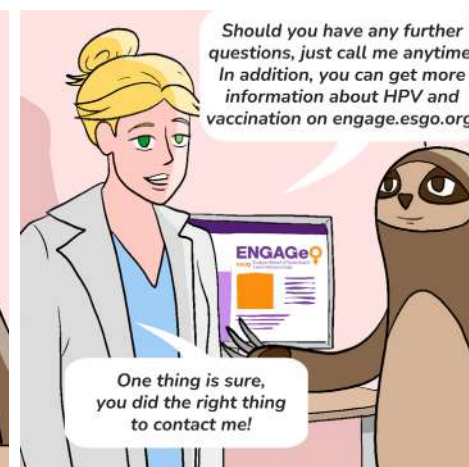
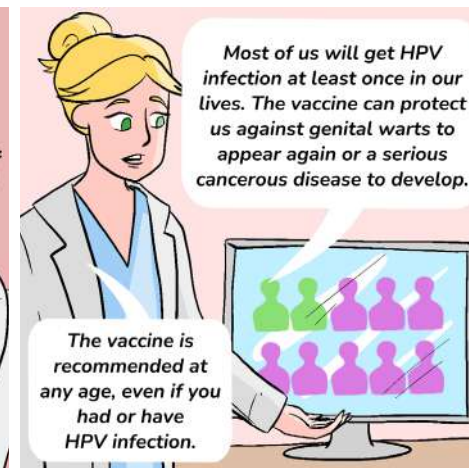












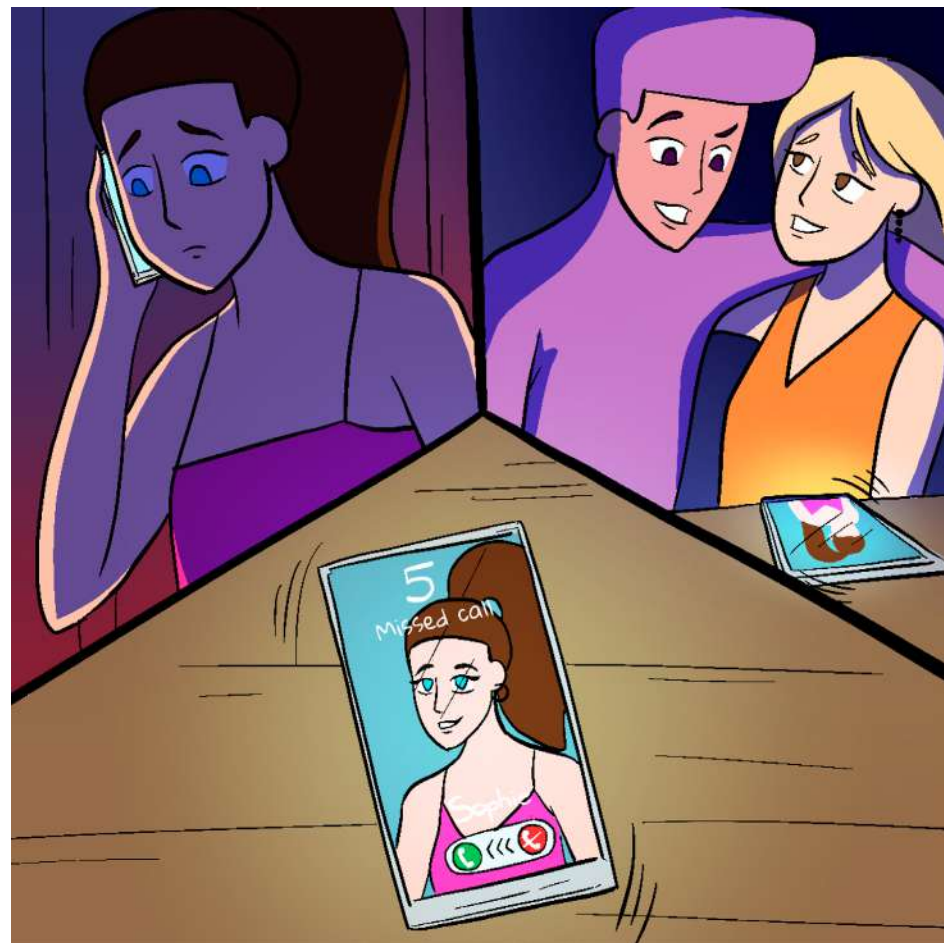


Dr. Pixie

It's very easy to talk to Dr. Pixie. Everyone can turn to her with questions about their symptoms, even if the subject is a little uncomfortable. It's okay to talk about HPV!



COOLTAS

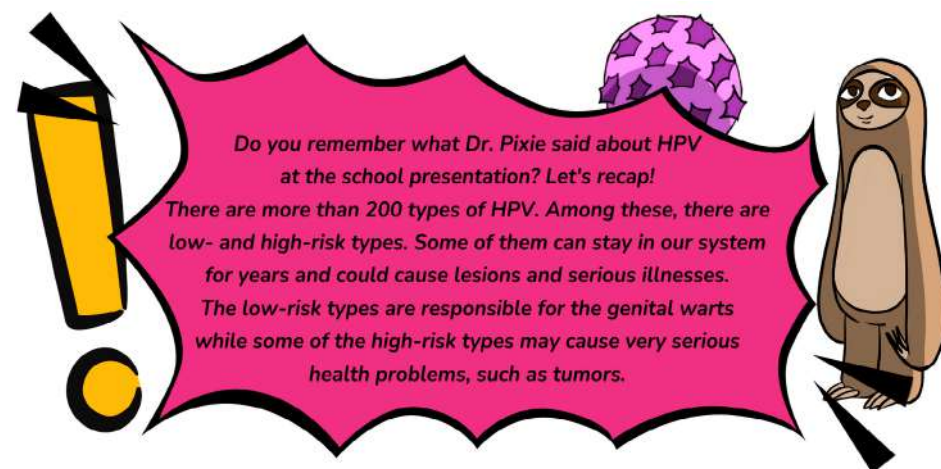




The HPV siblings are getting more and more unpopular in the school. At the moment there isn't any proof against them, but a group of enthusiastic detectives are already trying to prove that they have bad intentions. Meanwhile, Sophie's broken heart is ready to be healed. Is it possible that the disappointment will bring her and Shuto closer again?











I am so sorry, Sophie, it is not easy to accept what happened. But believe me, you'll get through the disappointment fast, and I know someone who might be able to help you.



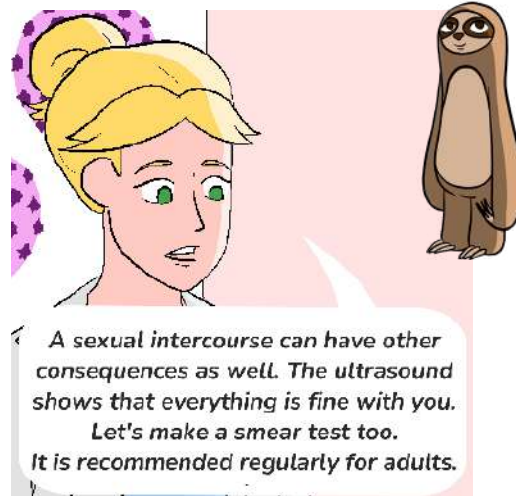
Right. I wish Vavi was here!



Although it was meant to be a surprise, it is already certain that he is coming home in June. Until then, I would like to make sure that everything is all right with your health.



You are definitely not pregnant.



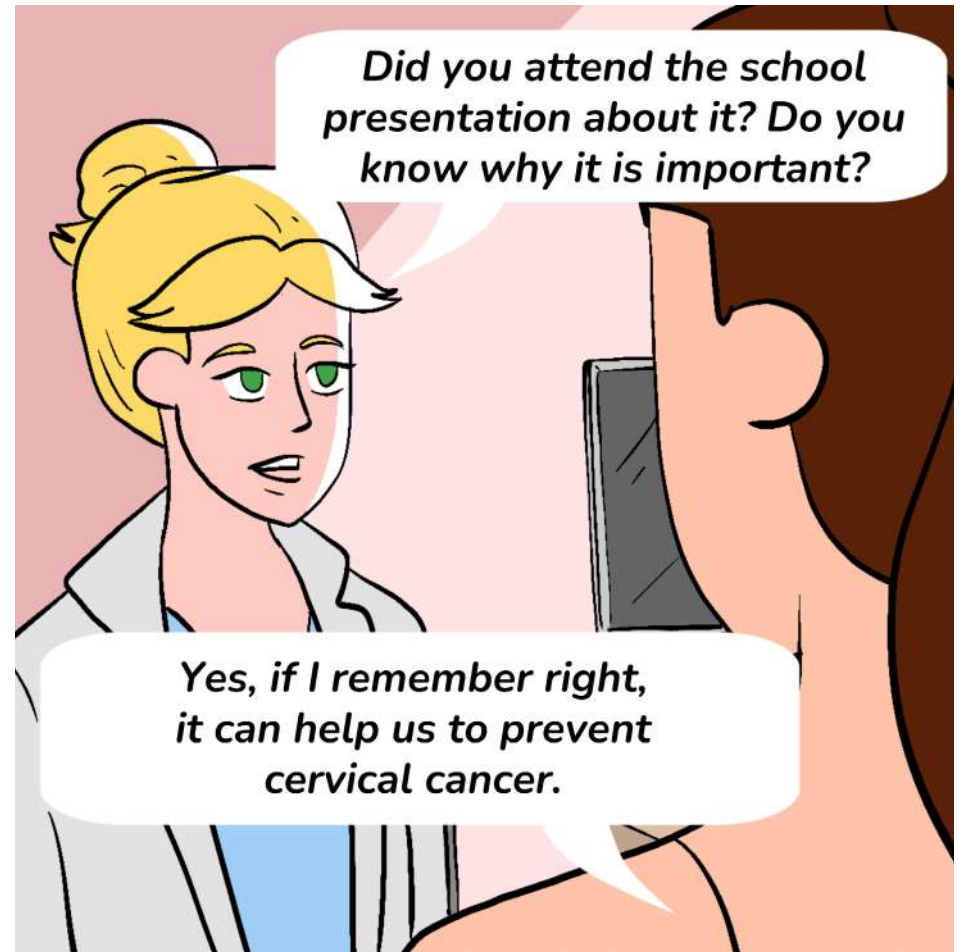
A sexual intercourse can have other consequences as well. The ultrasound shows that everything is fine with you. Let's make a smear test too. It is recommended regularly for adults.



On the other hand, let's do an HPV test for safety reasons.



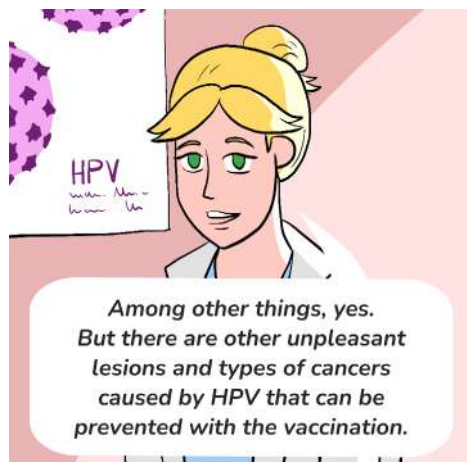
Whatever the result might be, definitely talk to your parents about the vaccination against HPV. It would be worth getting it.



Did you attend the school presentation about it? Do you know why it is important?

Yes, if I remember right, it can help us to prevent cervical cancer.





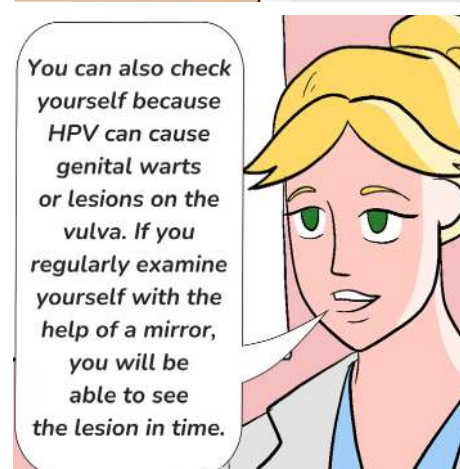
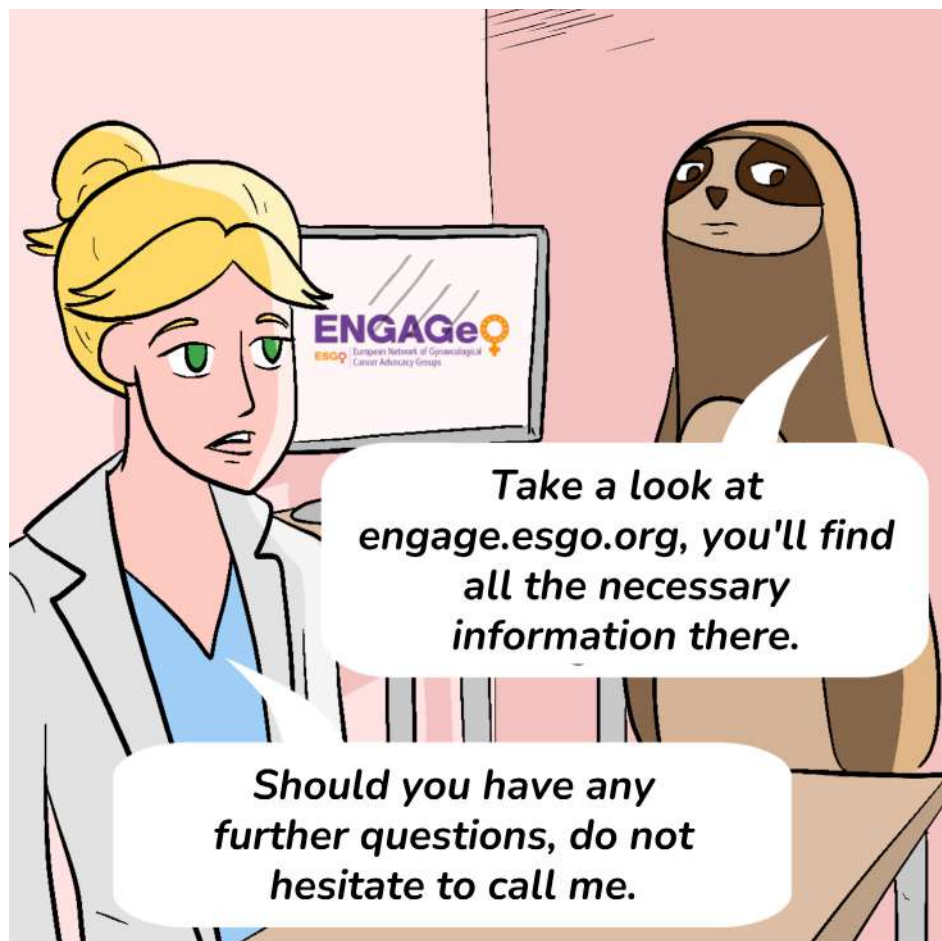
Check if there is anybody representing

**ENGAGE<sup>TEENs</sup>** 

ESGO European Network of Gynaecological Cancer Advocacy Groups

in your country!

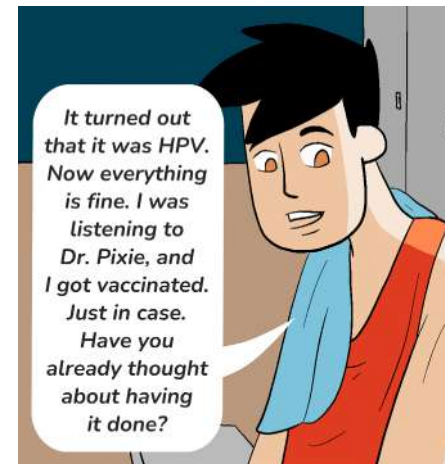
Join us and become a member to spread the message of prevention!



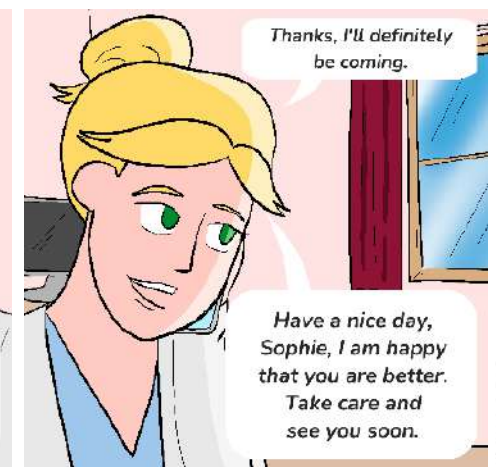
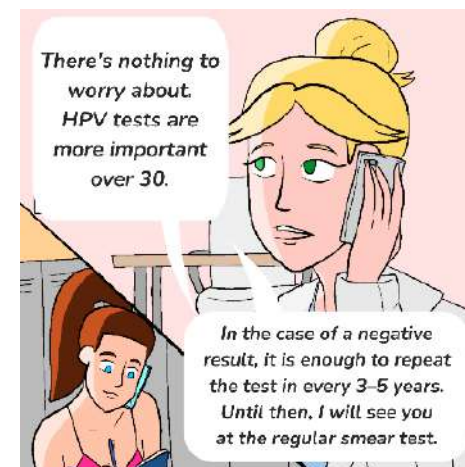
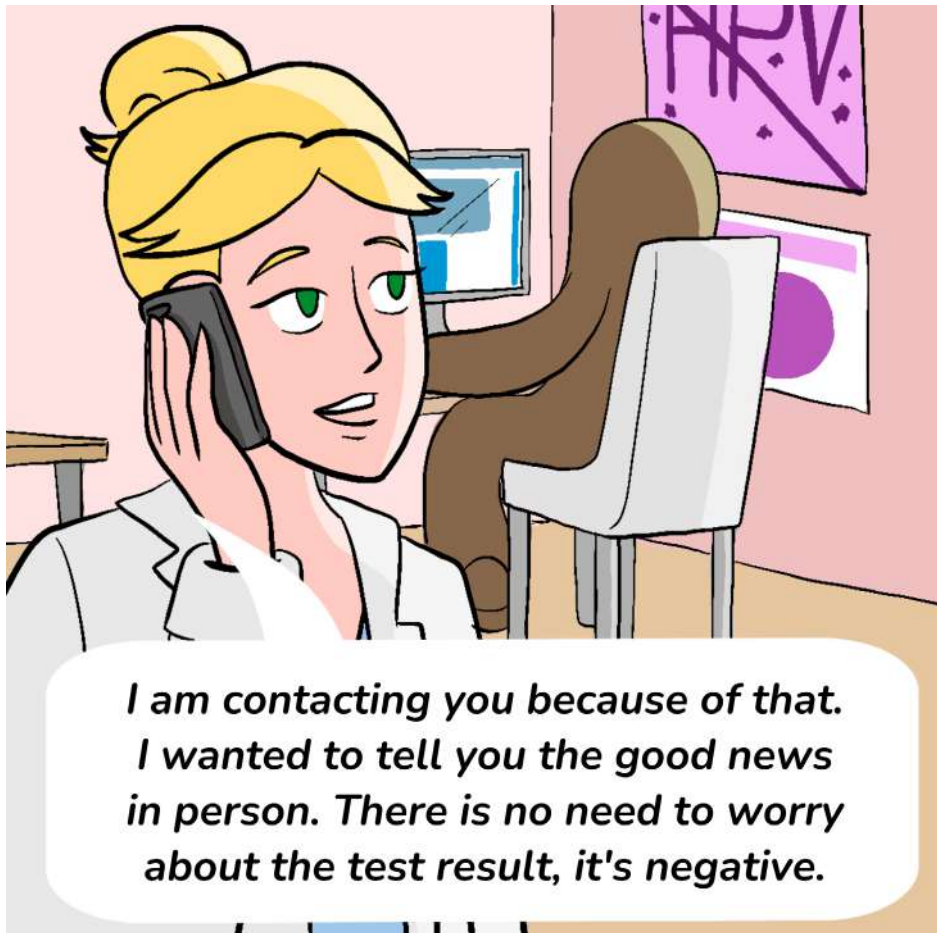
Sophie's heart is still healing, but at least she doesn't need to worry about her health. Vavi convinced her to see Dr. Pixie who would run the appropriate tests and would give her invaluable advice on HPV.

In the meantime, Shuto has overcome the first shock of his bad love affair with Virola and successfully dealt with his HPV infection. Thanks to Dr. Pixie he's made the right choice on how to beat HPV.









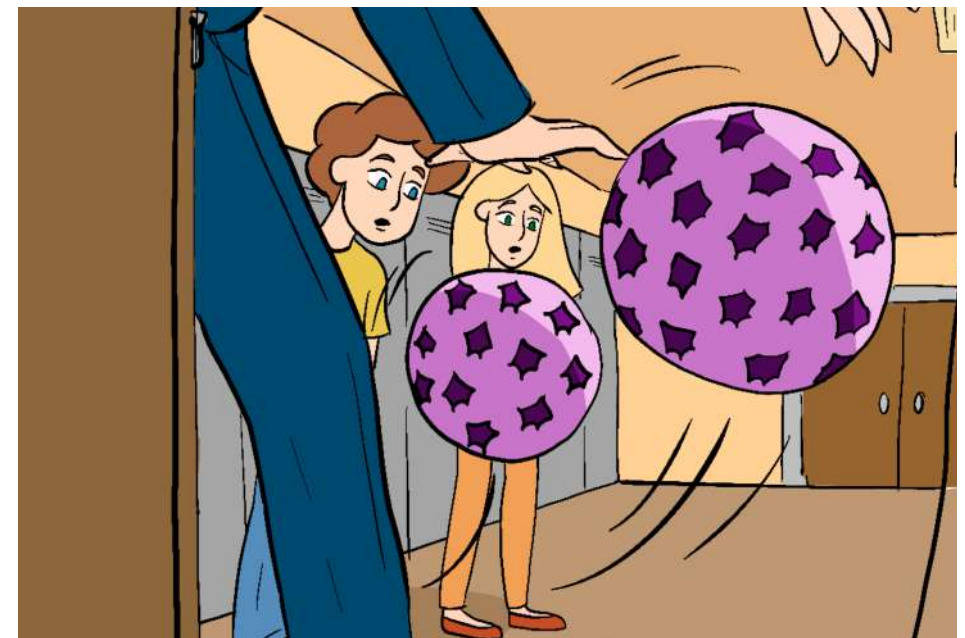
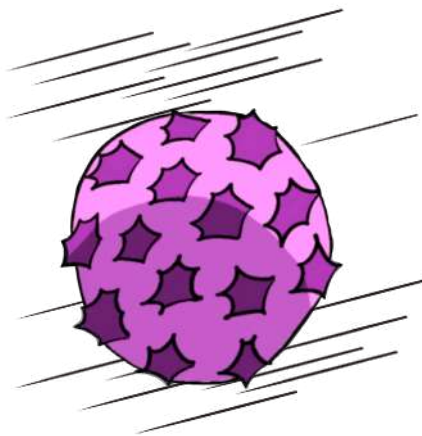


The amateur detectives set up a clever trap for Virola as they are convinced she is the school's thief. At this moment, they are hiding behind the lockers to catch her red handed and with the proof, make her accountable.  
Are they right about Virola?

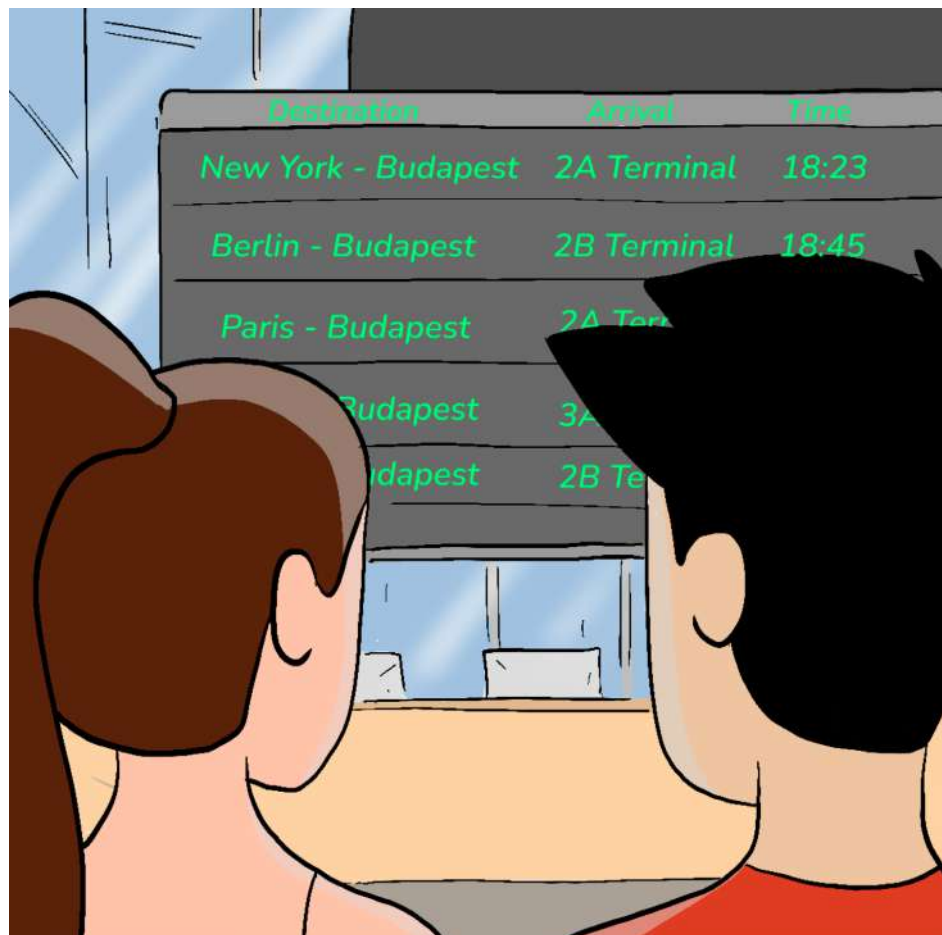
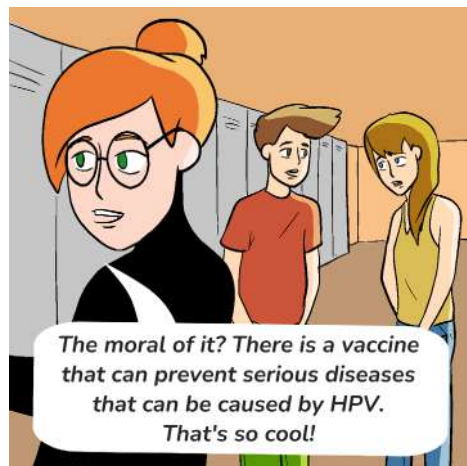
Well, the camera is rolling...



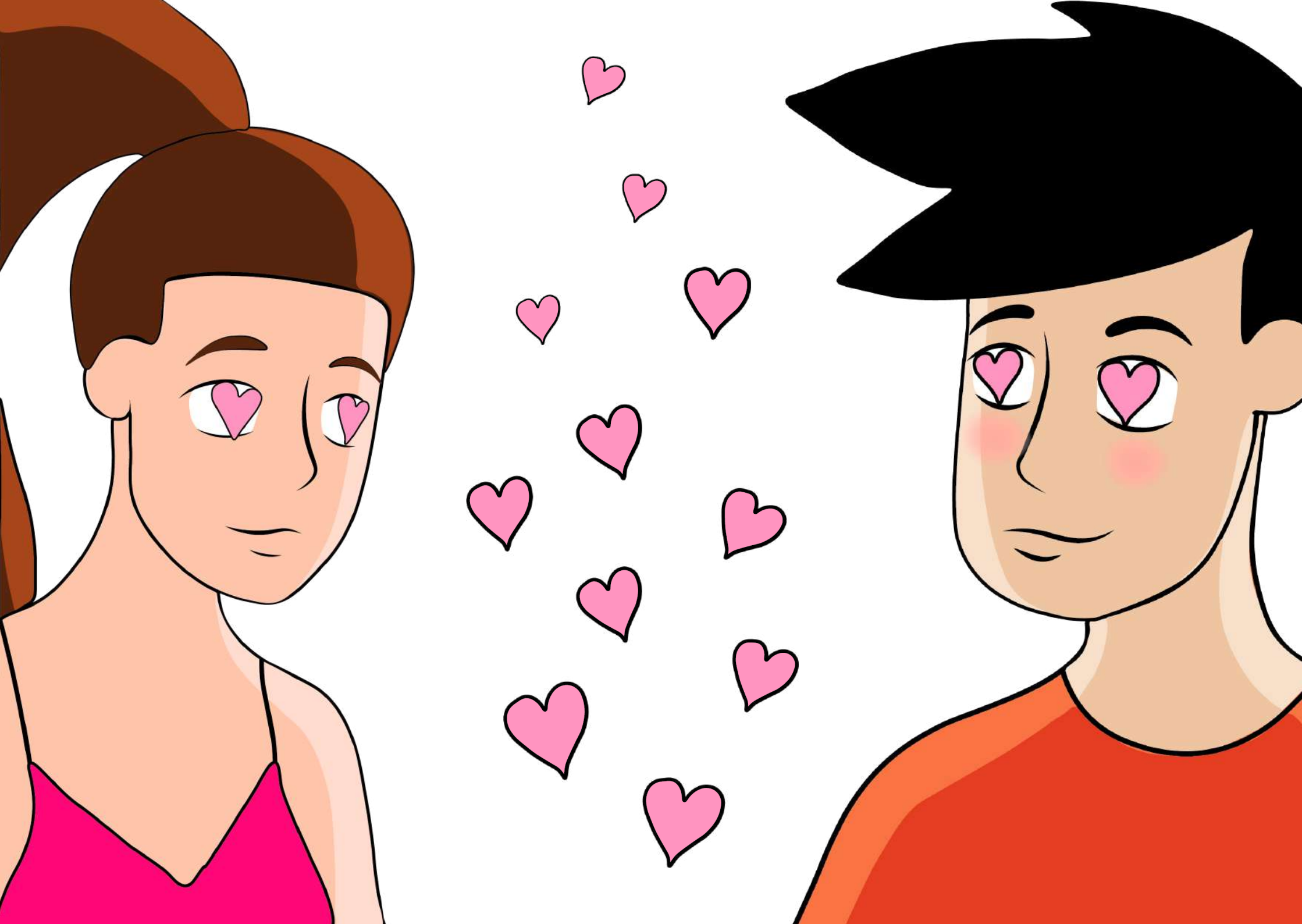




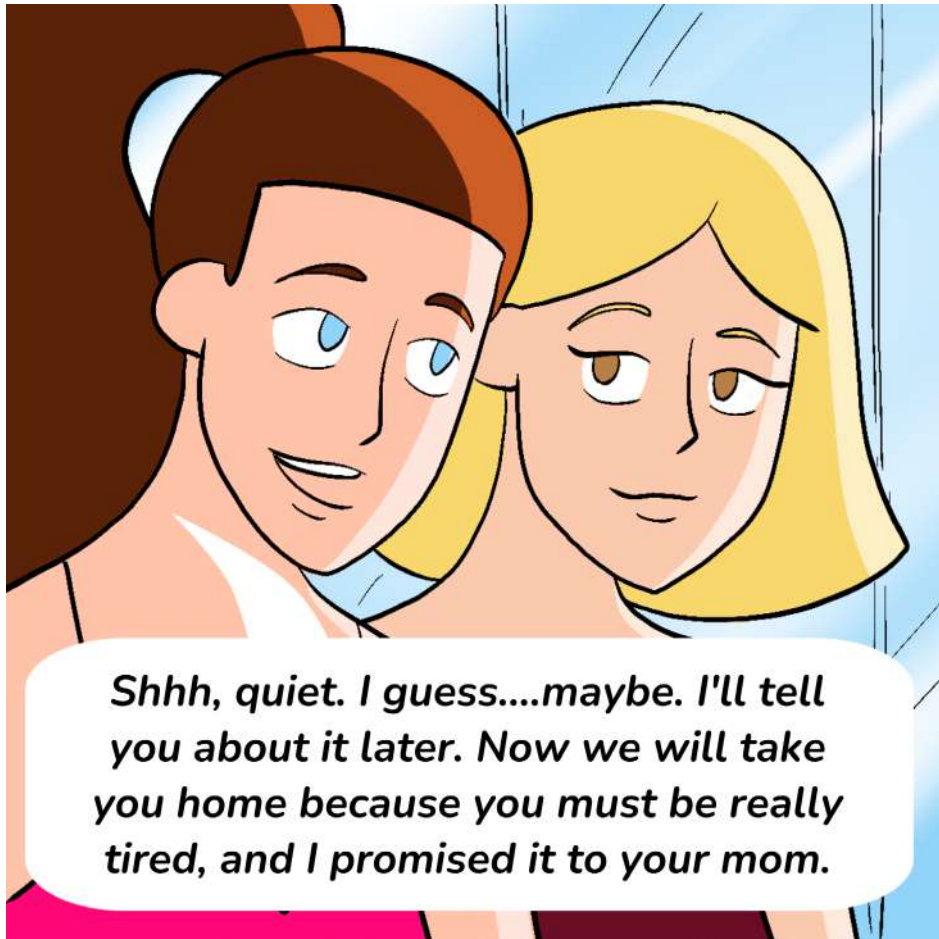




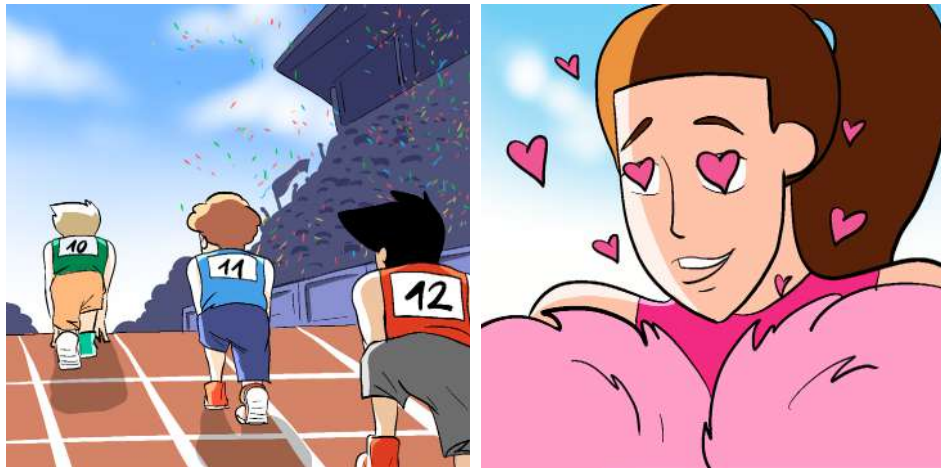














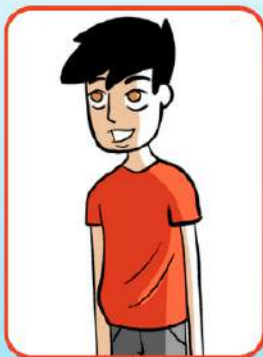
Starring:



Sophie



HP Virola and Virtus



Shuto

... and those who hide behind the characters:



Dr. Tünde Bartha



Csanád Kreiter



Vanda Kolozsvári



Slowly



Maxi



7.D.



Inez Nagy



Hanga Mészáros



Jázmin Nagy



Vivien Böjte



Dora



Granny



Vlogger



Kelli Spanics



Dalma Németh



Dávid Halassy



Marci Brittnek



Mia Gazdik



Bora Seregely



Meiwan Cao



*Would you join us?  
Become an **ENGAGe Teen!**  
Read more details here:*



**Contact us at [engage@esgo.org](mailto:engage@esgo.org)!**

*Your parents can find more information  
about **ENGAGe** here:*





*"HPV is one of the most challenging topics for patients to listen to and to understand. Achieving real protection requires training and behavioral changes, especially among teenagers. This has been the biggest handicap we have to face, and I really believe that this comic book will fill this gap."*

*/Prof. Murat Gultekin, gynaecologist/*

*"Comics have always been a precious means of coping and communication for me... I can see that many teens rely on them to get familiar with life nowadays - it's their safe space. I've always been of the advice that this can be good only in certain limits. We can't afford to lose the beauty of life, burying ourselves in a "paper world". Comics have to be inspiring, so that you can end the story in the real world, feeling the protagonist that you actually are! That's why comics can be a precious source of communication, in all fields. And the COOLTAS Project manages perfectly in its attempt of information as well as being appealing for young people!"*

*/Francesco Di Fino, ENGAGe Teen/*

*We wanted to involve teens with the COOLTAS comics series into a joint work, where we create something that will help them know more about human papillomavirus, which, to be honest, is not a popular topic. The future is without HPV. It must be! And we can reach this together.*

*I hope that our comics series will reach a many young people and adults as well. I love it!*

*/Ic6 T6th, president, Mallow Flower Foundation/*

*"Many people don't care about their health, what's more, they don't know about several things such as this virus. I think this book can help my generation to understand better why is it important to care about our health. It may sound boring at first, that's why we tried to create a story that presents this topic in an interesting way in order to grab young people's attention."*

*/Ázmin Nagy, Mallow Teen/*