



The HPV (Human Papillomavirus) Immunisation Programme

A vaccine to help prevent cervical cancer

Girls presentation





Overview

- What is HPV?
- What is cervical cancer?
- What is the HPV immunisation?
- Frequently asked questions
- Informed consent



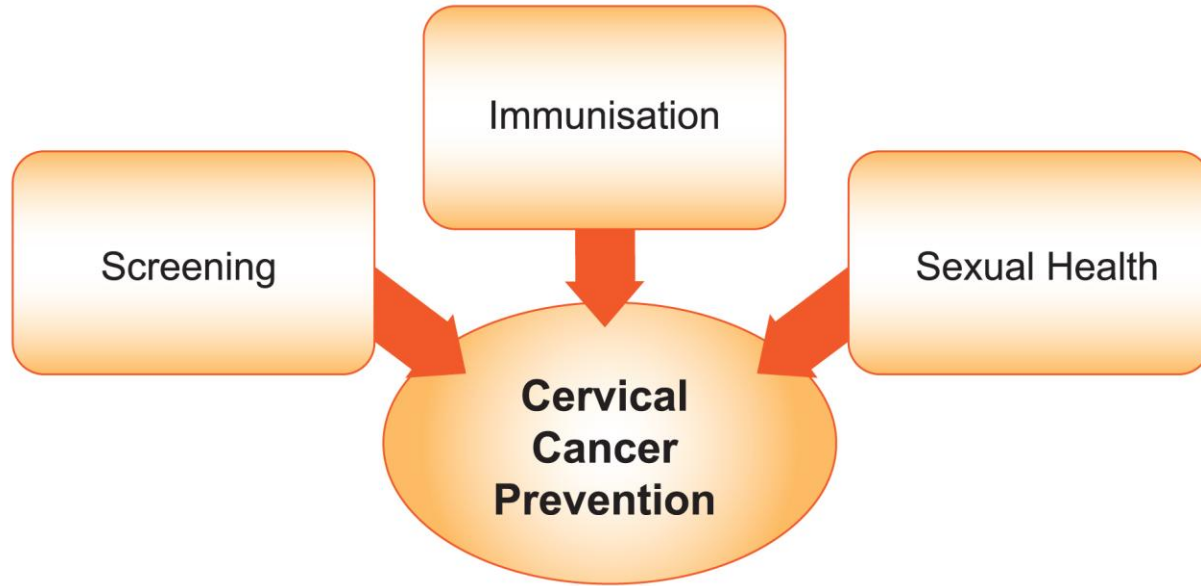
What is HPV?

- HPV is a type of virus - called human papillomavirus.
- HPV causes warts and other skin infections.
- Some high-risk types of HPV can cause cervical cancer.
- Four out of five people will have HPV infection at some stage.
- Most people with HPV infection have no symptoms.
- Most HPV infections clear by themselves and don't lead to cervical cancer.



What is Cervical Cancer?

- It is cancer of the cervix, which is the lower part of the uterus or womb.
- It develops over time – usually many years – when abnormal cells grow on the cervix but are not removed.
- These abnormal cells are caused by an HPV infection that hasn't cleared up.



- The aim of the HPV Immunisation Programme is to help protect young women from HPV infection and the risk of developing cervical cancer later in life.
- It is one of the ways we can help prevent cervical cancer.



What is the HPV Immunisation?

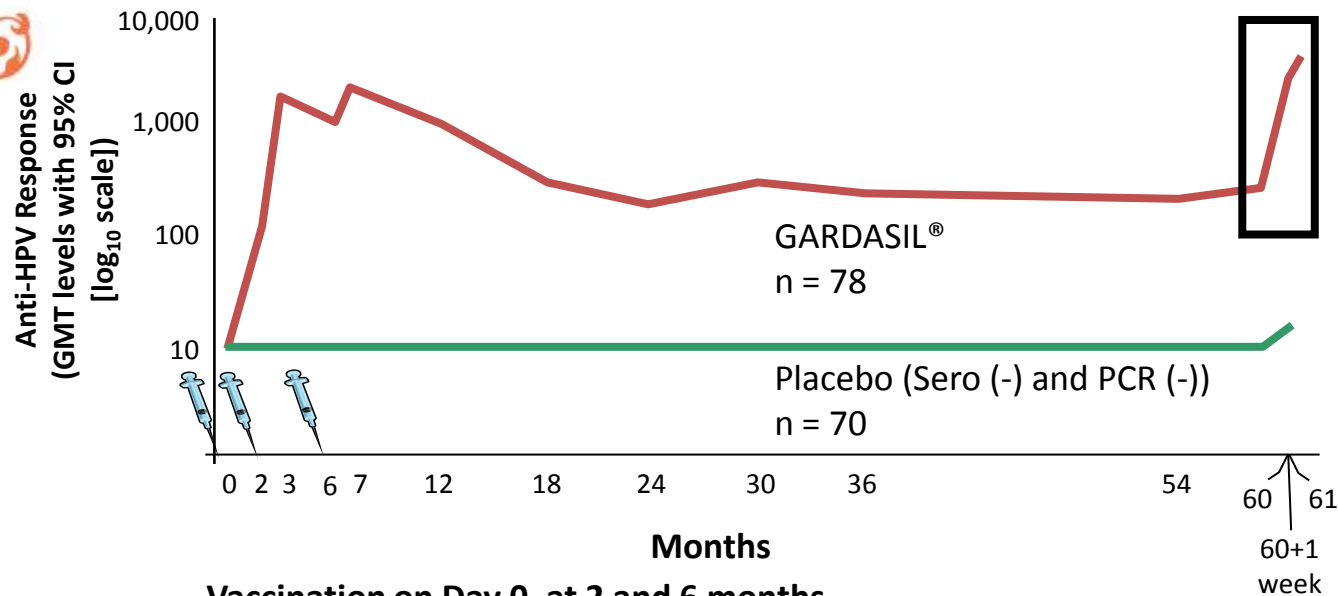
- The HPV immunisation protects you against the four types of HPV that cause 7 out of 10 cervical cancers
- Being immunised now means you are less likely to have an HPV infection or develop cervical cancer when you are older.



What is the HPV immunisation?

- HPV immunisation is offered to young women in many countries around the world.
- The vaccine is called Gardasil®
- It has an excellent safety profile.
- It is expected to offer long-lasting protection.

Vaccine effectiveness



Immune memory demonstrated after immune challenge

It takes Three



Frequently asked questions

How is it given?

- As three injections in your upper arm over 6 months.

Will it hurt?

- You may get a sore arm – injection site pain, redness and swelling.

Are there side effects?

- Some girls feel sick afterwards.
- Some girls faint.
- The only known severe side effect is serious allergic reaction (like peanut allergy) in rare cases (3 per million doses).



Frequently asked questions

Is it safe?

- The vaccine has a good safety profile.
- Based on the vaccine's safety and effectiveness, it is used in more than 100 countries.
- You can't get HPV through the immunisation.



Frequently asked questions

Do I have to get it?

- Whether or not to have the HPV immunisation is a choice for you and your parents to make.
- Young women born on or after 1 January 1990 can have the vaccine for free.
- If you don't have the HPV immunisation through school this year, you can still get it from your General Practice.



Informed Consent

- If you are under 16 your parent, legal guardian or main caregiver needs to sign the consent form for you.
- The consent form should be signed and returned to let us know whether you do or do not want the HPV immunisation at school.
- You should discuss the HPV immunisation with your parents or caregivers.



More information

www.cervicalcancervaccine.govt.nz

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