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Gateway reference number 14796

To: SHA Immunisation Leads
PCT Immunisation Co-ordinators

14 September 2010

Dear Colleague

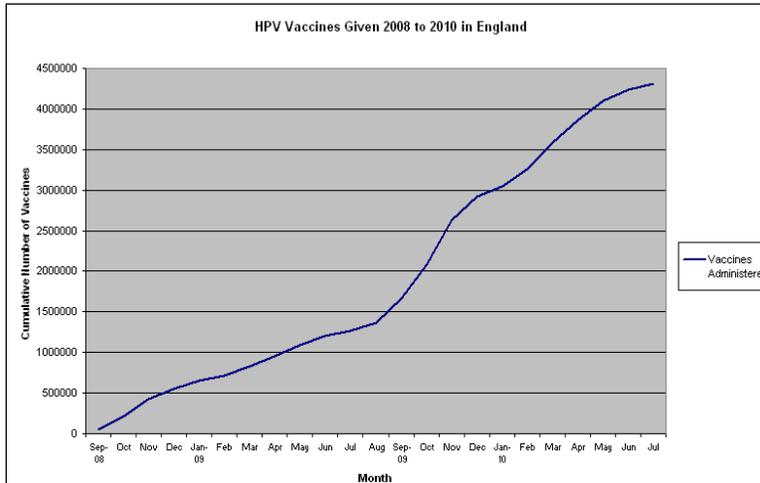
HPV immunisation programme update

This letter is to update you on the Human Papillomavirus (HPV) programme: firstly, on the excellent uptake of the vaccine and then on changes to the way vaccine can be ordered via the ImmForm website.

Uptake

Following the announcement of the acceleration of the HPV catch up programme in January 2009 (see David Salisbury letter: http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Lettersandcirculars/Dearcolleagueletters/DH_094025), colleagues have responded by administering more than twice the number of vaccines in the second year of the programme (2009/2010 academic year) than were given in the previous year of the programme. This represents an enormous effort on the part of everyone participating, and shows the success of the programmes that have been run, especially in the face of a worldwide Flu pandemic and some adverse publicity. Colleagues are warmly congratulated for their commitment and professionalism in producing the most successful HPV vaccination programme in the world at present.

The graph below shows the cumulative number of vaccines given over the first two years of the programme and clearly illustrates the sustained surge in the number of vaccinations from the start of the second academic year in September 2009.



Although the catch up campaign has ended for the majority of areas, the latest vaccine coverage data shows that there are still large numbers of girls that have yet to be offered the vaccine. The Joint Committee for Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI) recommended that all females aged from 12 and up to 18 years old should receive the HPV vaccine. PCTs are therefore urged to continue to identify and offer vaccine to girls that fall within the JCVI's recommendations, either in the school environment or at their local GP for some or all of their doses.

Vaccine Ordering

In order to provide flexibility to PCTs we are lifting the restriction on who can order this vaccine from 27 September. Vaccine will still only be available to order via the ImmForm website but all organisations under the PCTs including GPs, Hospitals and Pharmacies can now place orders. We will leave it to PCTs how best they want to plan their local programmes and you will need to notify GP practices and other organisations in your area of this change, as appropriate. PCTs can continue to place bulk orders as they do currently if they choose to. HPV vaccines ordered by GPs are only for use in cohorts who have been recommended for HPV vaccination within the national immunisation programme.

Organisations can start ordering HPV and other childhood vaccines via ImmForm once they have registered their Movianto account(s) on ImmForm. Organisations that have already done this will have an ImmForm login and will see a "Vaccine Supply" link when they log in. Organisations that have not yet registered can do so online via www.vaccinesupply.dh.gov.uk/registration. Any organisations unsure if they have an ImmForm login can use the above registration link. Once registered, they will receive an email with their login details.

To help PCTs manage this change, an ImmForm Registration Status report is now available to PCT users. This report will show PCT users whether their organisations are registered to order vaccines on ImmForm or not.

The amount of vaccine being ordered by each PCT location will continue to be monitored by DH and PCTs will be able to locally monitor how much vaccine is being ordered by organisations in their areas via ImmForm. If you have queries about the ImmForm you can email vaccinesupplytechsupport@dh.gsi.gov.uk.

As with current practice, all HPV vaccinations given, including those given in GP practices, should be reported via the HPV vaccine uptake surveys. If you have any queries about the vaccine uptake surveys only, please contact hpv@hpa.org.uk.

PCTs are reminded that no vaccines (of any type) should be held on a site unless it is a GP surgery, registered pharmacy or an organisation holding a valid Wholesale Dealer's License. Colleagues should contact the MHRA if they require a license (<http://www.mhra.gov.uk/Howweregulate/Medicines/Licensingofmedicines/ManufacturersandWholesaleDealerslicences/index.htm>) for more information.

Yours Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joanne Yarwood". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Joanne Yarwood
Acting Head, Immunisation Branch