

# Publication Summary



## HPV Immunisation Uptake Rates

HPV Immunisation Programme – School Year 2013/14

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### About this Release

The Human Papillomavirus (HPV) immunisation programme aims to protect girls from the two types of HPV that cause around 75% of cases of cervical cancer. The HPV vaccine does not protect against all cervical cancers, so regular cervical screening is still important.

In our latest publication, we present annual uptake rates for girls offered HPV immunisation in the second year of secondary school (S2) in school year 2013/14. The release also includes 'final' uptake rates for girls who were first offered HPV immunisation in S2 in school year 2012/13 and completed their immunisations in 2013/14.

### Key Points

- HPV immunisation uptake rates in Scotland remain high.
- 81.4% of girls in S2 in school year 2013/14 had completed their course of three HPV immunisations by the end of the school year. At the time of reporting, 91.7% had received two doses and 93.6% had received one dose. These uptake rates are similar to the equivalent reported rates for girls in S2 in the previous school year.
- Data for the first five years of the HPV immunisation programme show that a number of girls in S2 complete their immunisation course after the school year in which they were first offered the vaccine. Uptake rates for girls in S2 during school year 2013/14 are expected to increase as girls complete their immunisation course in school year 2014/15. Updated uptake rates for these girls 'one year later' will be published in September 2015.
- For girls who were in S2 during school year 2012/13, one year later data shows uptake rates increased to 91.4% for all three doses, 93.4% for two doses and 94.4% for one dose by the end of school year 2013/14.

## Background

The HPV Immunisation Programme in Scotland started on 1 September 2008 following the United Kingdom (UK) Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI) recommendation that immunisation against HPV should be introduced routinely for girls aged around 12 to 13 years. This recommendation was supported by an independent cost-benefit analysis which indicated that an uptake rate of 80% or more for three doses of vaccine would be cost effective for this routine cohort providing that vaccine protection lasted for at least 10 years. While no specific target for uptake of HPV immunisation in Scotland was set, the expectation was that uptake of 80% or more should be achieved for the routine programme.

Since the start of the programme, girls have been offered three doses of the vaccine. In March 2014, the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI) revised its existing recommendation and changed the HPV immunisation schedule from a three dose to a two dose schedule, as long as they receive their first dose before age 15. The new immunisation schedule (from three to two doses) will be effected in the 2014/15 school cohort.

Girls who have not had their first dose of HPV vaccine by the time they are 15 years old will continue to be offered three doses.

Gardasil® is the vaccine used in the immunisation programme. The Gardasil® vaccine also protects against two other types of HPV that cause around 90% of genital warts.

## Further Information

Further information can be found in the [Full Publication Report](#) or on the [ISD website](#)

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