Quick answers to frequent HPV vaccine & The Immunisation questions



Vaccines

Do we restart the course of HPV vaccines when doses have been delayed?

No. It is not necessary to repeat doses/restart course of Gardasil®9 (HPV9) after a delay in administration, even if the course of vaccines exceeds 12 months. Resume the vaccine schedule without repeating prior doses using the available HPV vaccine.

Gardasil and Gardasil 9 are fully interchangeable

- Individuals who begin with Gardasil (HPV4) can complete their vaccine course with Gardasil 9 (HPV9).
- The number and timing of doses is the same for both vaccines.
- There are no safety concerns with changing vaccine brands during a course of vaccines.

Vaccine administration

Gardasil (HPV4) and Gardasil 9 (HPV9) are fully interchangeable

Males and females aged 9-14 years inclusively

Not HIV-positive, or post-solid organ or stem cell transplantation | HIV-positive, or post-solid organ or stem cell transplantation

Two HPV vaccine doses

- The standard schedule is 0, 6 months
 - The minimum interval is 5 months between the two doses.
 - There is no maximum interval between doses. It is not necessary to repeat the prior dose regardless of how long ago the dose was given.
- If two doses are given at least 5 months apart, no further doses are required, even if the second dose is given when the individual is aged 15 years or older.
 - If doses one and two are given less than 5 months apart, a third HPV vaccine dose is required.

Three HPV vaccine doses

- The standard schedule is 0, 2, 6 months, i.e. an interval of 2 months between doses one and two, and an interval of 4 months between doses two and three.
 - A shortened schedule can be followed on specialist advice. Three doses can be given over a 5-month period, with a minimum interval of 4 weeks between any two doses.

Males and females aged 15-26 years inclusively

Three HPV vaccine doses

- The standard schedule is 0, 2, 6 months, i.e. an interval of 2 months between doses one and two, and an interval of 4 months between doses two and three.
 - If a shortened schedule for those aged over 15 years is required, the three doses can be given with a minimum of 4 weeks between doses one and two, and dose three given at least 12 weeks after dose two. UPPATED
- There is no maximum interval between doses. If the schedule has been interrupted, it is not necessary to repeat prior doses regardless of how long ago the doses were given.

Eligibility

Males and females aged 9 years to under 27 years§

- HPV immunisation course is funded from 9 years in primary healthcare.
- The School-based Immunisation Programme deliver the vaccine to school students in year 8.
- Individuals not eligible for publicly funded healthcare, e.g. on a student visa, must be aged under 18 years to start funded vaccine doses.

Special groups: Males and females aged 9 years to under 27 years

- Who are HIV-positive, or who have received a solid organ or stem cell transplantation
 - A course of three HPV vaccine doses for all ages including those aged 9-14 years inclusively.
- Who are post-chemotherapy
 - A maximum of four doses for people aged 9-26 years inclusively post-chemotherapy.

- Eligible for publicly funded healthcare: if at least one dose was given before 27 years of age,[§] there is no upper age limit to receive funded catch-up doses.
- Not eligible for publicly funded healthcare, e.g. on a student visa: if at least one dose was given before 18 years of age, there is no upper age limit to receive funded catch-up doses.

§Individuals who were:

• Eligible for publicly funded healthcare and turned 27 years of age on/after 1 April 2018,

OR

- Not eligible for publicly funded healthcare and turned 18 years of age on/after 1 April 2018.
 - Are eligible to complete a funded course of HPV9 vaccines if at least one dose was given before 1 April 2019, there is no upper age limit to receive funded catch-up doses.

