

# Welcome to HPV

By **Administrator**

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[Human Papillomavirus or HPV, for short, infects the skin and mucous membranes of humans. There are about 130 different strains with 30-40 strains passed sexually.](#)<sup>[2]</sup>

Causing genital and rectal warts as well as cervical, rectal and other cancers. It is a common sexually transmitted disease with sexually active people of both sexes acquiring a genital HPV infection at some point in their lives.

Presently the

[UK government has committed to a vaccination program for girls, to prevent progression to cervical cancer](#)<sup>[3]</sup>. The vaccine used is [Cervarix](#)<sup>[4]</sup>

which protects against strains 16 and 18 of HPV. It is offered to girls 12 and over with a catch-up program for those aged up to 18 years.

Whereas we welcome this as a first step we call for boys to also receive a vaccination. Further we call for girls & boys to be vaccinated with [Gardasil](#)<sup>[5]</sup> vaccine. This protects against type 16 & 18 HPV but also types 6 and 11. Types 6 and 11 causes 90% of genital warts.

[Nam's Aidsmap reports on the value of HIV-Positive gay men receiving Gardasil.](#)<sup>[6]</sup>

We find the current program sexist although the

[Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation](#)<sup>[7]</sup>

is to look at the cost effectiveness of the HPV vaccine for boys.

[To date this has been demonstrated as not being cost effective](#)<sup>[8]</sup>.

[Those with HIV of either sex are more prone to HPV with dormant HPV becoming active due to the immune system affect of HIV](#)<sup>[9]</sup>

. It is also likely that more than one type will be active at any time. The assumption with the vaccination is that it considers only heterosexual sexual behaviour.

[In men HPV can lead to penile and anal cancers. In gay men with HPV the incidence of anal cancer exceeds that of cervical cancer in women](#)<sup>[10]</sup>.

Issues around sex can be ignored through embarrassment or other issues. We however believe this needs a voice.

[You can access the HPV forums by clicking here](#)<sup>[11]</sup>and  
[learn how to post by clicking here](#)<sup>[12]</sup>

[HPV Home](#)

Everyone's experience is different. There are no "hard & fast" rules here. Someone you know may have had an adverse decision/ experience but yours will be different and maybe have a more positive outcome. The information on this site and externally linked sites & information does not constitute legal advice. You should always, if you have difficulty with any BENEFIT and require PROPER LEGAL ADVICE. Engage a suitably Qualified Solicitor / Social Worker / Welfare Rights Worker or the CAB - [Citizens Advice Bureau](#)

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- [2] [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Human\\_papillomavirus](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Human_papillomavirus)
- [3] <http://www.immunisation.nhs.uk/Vaccines/HPV/>
- [4] <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cervarix>
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- [9] <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/16672559>
- [10] <http://www.aids.org/factSheets/510-Human-Papillomavirus-HPV.html>
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