

T H E
Staight
P R A C T I C E

Dear Patient / Parent,

Re: HPV Vaccination for Boys

As you may be aware, there is now a vaccine available for the Human Papilloma Viruses (HPV) which are responsible for causing several cancers including Oral, Throat, Cervical and other Genital cancers. The virus is also responsible for genital warts.

Gardasil 9 is the latest vaccine which protects against nine different types of the HPV virus which are associated with these cancers.

There is increasing evidence to show that rates of oral and throat cancers are on the rise and are strongly linked to some strains of the HPV virus which the vaccine protects against.

Currently, only girls are eligible for the vaccine on the NHS and it is given at school in years 8-9.

Ideally the vaccine should be administered before patients become sexually active as this is how the virus is transmitted. However, there is evidence to suggest it is beneficial up to the age of 26. The vaccine can be given from 9 years old.

Cost is: **Under 15's require 2 doses: £370 (Interval: 0 / 5-13 months)**
Over 15's require 3 doses: £560 (Interval 0 / 2 / 6 months)

Common side effects include: pain, swelling and redness at the site of injection. A minority of patients will develop a short fever with headache and nausea but generally the vaccine is well tolerated and side effects are uncommon.

Please visit our website (www.thestaightpractice.co.uk) for more information. If you would like to organise for your son to receive the vaccine or you have a daughter who has missed the vaccine at school, please contact the Staight Practice on 0207 581 4222.

Yours sincerely,

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