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2nd February 2023

Deputy Burke Dáil Éireann, Kildare Street, Dublin 2

Re: To ask the Minister for Health the timeframe to move the HPV programme from a two-dose programme to a single dose programme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Colm Burke

Dear Deputy Burke,

I refer to the above Parliamentary Question which has been referred by the Minister for Health to the Health Service Executive for direct response.

The National Immunisation Advisory Committee (NIAC) now recommend 1 dose of HPV vaccine for those with a healthy immune system who are aged between 9 and 24 years. NIAC recommend 3 doses of HPV vaccine for people who have a weak immune system due to:

- having medical conditions such as HIV infection, haematopoietic stem cell or solid organ transplant recipients, malignant haematological disorders affecting the bone marrow or lymphatic systems, non-haematological malignant solid tumours, or primary immunodeficiency)
- Taking certain medications that really reduce the strength of their immune system

The HPV vaccination programme moved to a single dose programme with the launch of the Laura Brennan HPV Catch Up Vaccination Programme on 8th December 2022.

People eligible for the Laura Brennan HPV Catch Up Vaccination programme will be offered 1 dose of HPV.

Parents of students in first year received correspondence in December 2022 alerting them to the change in the vaccination schedule. This school term school vaccination teams will be visiting schools to offer a dose of MenACWY vaccine and the HSE will remind parents again of the change in the HPV vaccination schedule.

If additional doses are clinically recommended the HSE will offer an appointment for people to receive additional doses.

Information about the HPV vaccine is available from www.hpv.ie

Yours sincerely,

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