

What happens at the appointment?

Your Pharmacist will tell you more about the service, including how the vaccination will be given, and will give you the opportunity to ask any questions.

They'll also ask you about any medicines you may be taking and your medical history to make sure the service is suitable for you. If you have a fever on the day of your appointment, you may be asked to return when better.

We advise that you should wear a loose-fitting or short-sleeved top for your vaccination appointment.

It is important that you remain in the Pharmacy for five minutes after your vaccination, as advised by your Pharmacist. This is just in case you have any immediate side effects.

How do I book an appointment?

To ensure that there is a specially trained Pharmacist available to see you for the consultation, please book your appointment online by visiting [boots.com/hpv](https://www.boots.com/hpv)

You can also visit your local Boots Pharmacy, where your Healthcare team can arrange an appointment for you in a Pharmacy offering the service.

What else should I do to help protect myself?

Vaccination against HPV will not protect against every type of HPV infection or other sexually transmitted infections. Therefore, it's important to take precautions against sexually transmitted infections (eg. by using condoms).

It is important to note that the vaccination is not a substitution for routine cervical screening (smear tests). The NHS offers cervical screening to women and people with a cervix between the ages of 25-64 every three to five years. It's important to attend these appointments.

Finally, giving up smoking can reduce your risk of developing many cancers, including cervical cancer. Some studies have also shown smoking increases the risk of anal and penile cancer.

Where can I find out more?

You may find the below useful:

- [boots.com/hpv](https://www.boots.com/hpv) – key information about the Boots HPV Vaccination Service. You can also book your appointment here
- [nhs.uk/hpv](https://www.nhs.uk/hpv) – a wealth of information about the HPV vaccination

Our fully trained staff are on hand in store to give you advice and help. Or you can contact our Customer Care Helpline on **03450 708090** (local rate, calls may be recorded for training purposes) between the hours of 8.30am and 7pm Monday to Friday and 8.45am and 5pm Saturday and Sunday.

All details are correct at time of going to print June 2022

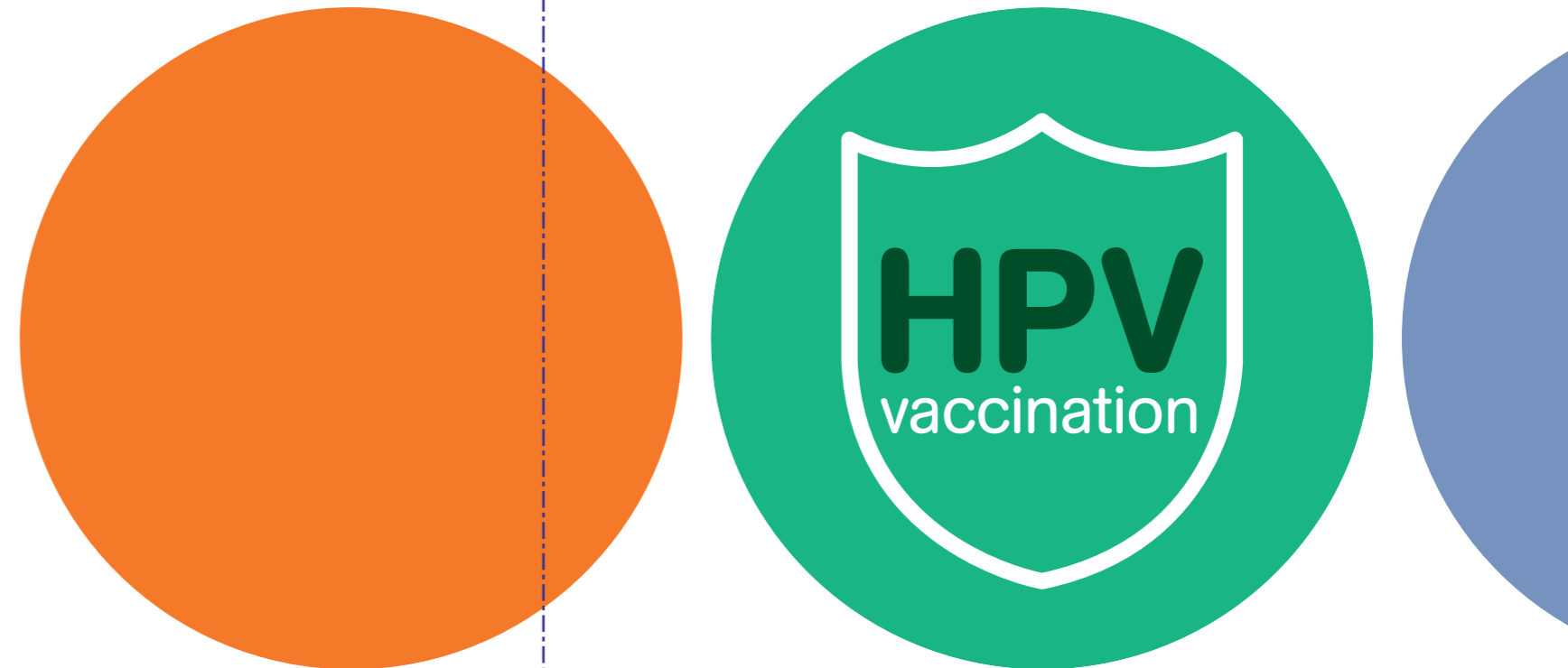
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HPV Vaccination Service

Helps protect against cervical cancer, genital warts and some other types of cancer

Let's look after ourselves



Boots
With you. For life.

Some types of HPV (Human Papilloma Virus) can lead to cervical cancer, genital warts and some other HPV-associated cancers. About eight in 10 people will be infected with the virus at some point in their lives,* so it makes sense to vaccinate against it.

What do I need to know?

HPV is a common virus with over 200 types, most of which are harmless. In most cases, your immune system will be able to get rid of it. However, sometimes an HPV infection can persist and can lead to certain types of cancer, as well as genital warts.

Cancer of the cervix

Almost all cases of cervical cancer are caused by the HPV virus. High-risk types 16 and 18 are known to be responsible for over 80% of all cases of cervical cancer, and types 31, 33, 45, 52 and 58 are responsible for a further 15%.**

Genital warts

These are small, fleshy bumps that appear on or around the genital or anal area. Although they may cause distress and may be unsightly, they aren't usually considered harmful to health.

Anal cancer, some types of cancer of the head and neck, cancer of the vagina, vulva and penis

Infection with HPV can increase the risk of developing anal cancer and some cancers of the head and neck. It can also increase the risk of developing cancer of the vagina, vulva and penis. However, these cancers are less common and other factors are often involved.

Around 90%
of genital warts
are caused by
HPV virus types
6 and 11[†]

*jostrust.org.uk/information/hpv/what-is-hpv
[†]jostrust.org.uk/information/hpv/hpv-and-genital-warts
**nhs.uk/conditions/vaccinations/hpv-human-papillomavirus-vaccine/

How is it caught?

Genital HPV infection is very common and is caught through intimate sexual contact with another person who already carries the virus.

It's important to take precautions against sexually transmitted infections (eg. by using condoms). However, there's still a risk you can catch HPV – even if you use a condom. This is because the virus lives on the skin in and around the genital area and can be spread even if you don't have penetrative sex.

Who is at risk?

Anybody who is sexually active is at risk of contracting an HPV infection and, as there may be no symptoms, you can be infected with the virus for years without knowing it. However, the risk of becoming infected does increase with the number of sexual partners, and is more likely if you started having sex at a younger age.

Other factors are known to increase the risk of HPV infections developing into cervical cancer or anal cancer

These include:

- Smoking
- Having a weakened immune system, eg. by taking certain medicines or by being HIV positive

The risk of cervical cancer is also increased by other factors including:

- Giving birth (risk increases with multiple full-term pregnancies)^{††}
- Giving birth to a first child while under the age of 17^{††}
- Oral contraceptive use (for five years or more)^{††}
- Being under 45 years of age (cervical cancer is more common in younger people)^{*}
- Having a previous history of vaginal, vulval, kidney or bladder cancer^{*}

^{††} cancerresearchuk.org/health-professional/cancer-statistics/statistics-by-cancer-type/cervical-cancer/risk-factors#heading:Seven
^{*} nhs.uk/conditions/cervical-cancer/causes/

Did you know?
People who have
only had one
sexual partner
can still be
infected with HPV

How can I help protect against HPV?

Being vaccinated against HPV offers the best protection against the virus. Ideally, this should be before becoming sexually active, as you won't yet have come into contact with the virus. If you are sexually active, you will still benefit from the service, as the HPV vaccination will help protect against HPV infections in the future. However, it will have no effect on active infections and established or previous disease. It will also not prevent the possible development of disease if you are already infected with HPV.

Immunisation against HPV is provided as part of the NHS childhood vaccination programme and is routinely offered to children aged 12 and 13 (11 and 12 in Scotland). Men who have sex with men may also be eligible for free vaccination on the NHS, up to and including age 45 years (available at sexual health and/or HIV clinics).

Boots HPV Vaccination Service

Our service offers protection against 9 HPV types (types 6, 11, 16, 18, 31, 33, 45, 52 and 58), and so helps protect against:

- Cancer of the cervix, vagina and vulva
- Genital warts
- Anal cancer

The service offers protection against the virus types responsible for 90% of cervical cancers, 90-95% of HPV-related anal cancer, 90% of genital warts, 85-90% of HPV-related vulval cancers and 80-85% of HPV-related vaginal cancers.

The UK guidance on how many HPV vaccinations are required has changed. Most customers will now only require 2 doses of the vaccination if starting a new course. Dependent on medical history and outcome of the consultation with a Boots Pharmacist, customers will require either 2 or 3 doses of the vaccination. If you choose to pay for each vaccination individually they will each cost £170.

Save £5 per vaccination when paying for your course upfront

Please note: efficacy of the vaccine used in the Boots HPV Vaccination Service against penile cancer has not been proven to date due to the low number of cases in research studies. The vaccine is also not indicated for protection against cancers of the head and neck.

[▲] Full Advantage Card terms and conditions apply, see boots.com for details

Who is the service suitable for?

The service may be suitable for you if you:

- Are aged 12-45
- Are not pregnant
- Haven't had an allergic reaction to any previous vaccination
- Feel well and don't have a high temperature on the day of your appointment

♦Customers receiving two doses of the vaccination will receive:

- one on the first visit
- a second after at least six months

♦Customers receiving three doses of the vaccination will receive:

- one on the first visit
- a second, one month after the first visit
- a third, three months after the second vaccination

Earn Advantage Card points when accessing the Boots HPV Vaccination Service[▲]