



Information for schools and colleges

01 February 2010

Girls in Devon urged to arm against cervical cancer

Girls in Devon should get armed against cervical cancer by having a human papilloma virus (HPV) vaccine, urged NHS Devon's director of public health.

This comes as a timely reminder as cervical cancer prevention week is taking place between 24 and 30 January to increase awareness of cervical cancer and how to prevent it.

Clinics are being run across Devon to protect girls from cervical cancer.

The clinics are open to all girls between the age of 12 and 18 who have yet to begin or complete their HPV vaccination course.

Girls need to have had all three doses of the vaccine to be fully protected against cervical cancer.

The HPV vaccination is generally given in schools, and consists of three injections that are given over a six-month period. However, NHS Devon is running clinics for girls who, for whatever reason, failed to get a vaccination in school.

Dr Virginia Pearson, director of public health for NHS Devon, said: "Cervical cancer is one of the biggest killers of women in their 30s, so I urge all girls to get protected at an early age.

"Infection with some types of HPV can cause abnormal tissue growth and other changes to cells, which can lead to cervical cancer.

"Almost one in every 100 women develops cervical cancer and more than 1,000 women die from it each year in the UK.

"It is the most preventable form of cancer, yet it is still the second biggest cancer killer of women aged 30-34 years in the UK."

All clinics are by appointment only and to book an appointment or for further advice, contact NHS Devon's immunisation team on 01392 208 469.

Ends...

For further information or interviews, please contact Paul Hopkins on 01392 356 953 / 267 647 or 0797 133 0491.

Clinic dates and times:

All clinics are appointment only and are being run on the following dates. However if the dates have already passed or you are unable to make one of them, contact 01392 208 469 to discuss alternative arrangements.

Withycombe Clinic, Exmouth

Session 1: 4 January 2010 (5pm – 8pm)
Session 2: 1 February 2010 (5pm – 8pm)
Session 3: 24 May 2010 (5pm – 8pm)

Ashburton hospital

Session 1: 2 February 2010 (5pm – 8pm)
Session 2: 4 March 2010 (5pm – 7pm)
Session 3: 25 May 2010 (5pm – 8pm)

Dawlish hospital

Session 1: 3 February 2010 (5pm – 8pm)
Session 2: 3 March 2010 (5pm – 8pm)
Session 3: 26 May 2010 (5pm – 8pm)

Crediton hospital

Session 1: 4 February 2010 (5pm – 8pm)
Session 2: 5 March 2010 (5pm – 8pm)
Session 3: 27 May 2010 (5pm – 8pm)

South Molton hospital

Session 1: 5 February 2010 (5pm – 8pm)
Session 2: 6 March 2010 (10am – 12pm)
Session 3: 29 May 2010 (5pm – 8pm)

Ilfracombe Tyrell hospital

Session 1: 9 January 2010 (2pm – 4pm)
Session 2: 6 February 2010 (2pm – 4pm)
Session 3: 29 May 2010 (2pm – 4pm)

Tiverton hospital

Session 1: 11 January 2010 (5pm – 8pm)

Session 2: 8 February 2010 (5pm – 8pm)

Session 3: 7 June 2010 (5pm – 8pm)

Newton Abbot hospital

Session 1: 9 February 2010 (5pm – 8pm)

Session 2: 11 March 2010 (5pm – 8pm)

Session 3: 8 June 2010 (5pm – 8pm)

Honiton hospital

Session 1: 13 January 2010 (5pm – 8pm)

Session 2: 10 February 2010 (5pm – 8pm)

Session 3: 9 June 2010 (5pm – 8pm)

Barnstaple Health Centre, Vicarage Street

Session 1: 14 January 2010 (4pm – 7pm)

Session 2: 11 February 2010 (4pm – 7pm)

Session 3: 10 June 2010 (4pm – 7pm)

Franklyn House, Exeter

Session 1: 15 January 2010 (4:30pm – 8pm)

Session 2: 12 February 2010 (5pm – 8pm)

Session 3: 11 June 2010 (4:30pm – 8pm)

Kingsbridge hospital

Session 1: 16 January 2010 (9:30am – 11:30am)

Session 2: 13 February 2010 (9:30am – 11:30am)

Session 3: 12 June 2010 (9:30am – 11:30am)

Axminster hospital

Session 1: 18 January 2010 (5pm – 8pm)

Session 2: 22 February 2010 (5pm – 8pm)

Session 3: 14 June 2010 (5pm – 8pm)

Totnes hospital

Session 1: 19 January 2010 (5pm – 8pm)

Session 2: 23 February 2010 (5pm – 8pm)

Session 3: 15 June 2010 (5pm – 8pm)

Tavistock hospital

Session 1: 20 January 2010 (5pm – 8pm)
Session 2: 24 February 2010 (5pm – 8pm)
Extra session: 19 May 2010 (5pm – 8pm)
Session 3: 16 June 2010 (5pm – 8pm)

Sidmouth hospital

Session 1: 21 January 2010 (5pm – 8pm)
Session 2: 25 February 2010 (5pm – 8pm)
Session 3: 17 June 2010 (5pm – 8pm)

South Dartmoor Leisure Centre, Ivybridge

Session 1: 21 January 2010 (5pm – 8pm)
Session 2: 25 February 2010 (5pm – 8pm)
Session 3: 17 June 2010 (5pm – 8pm)

Okehampton hospital

Session 1: 22 January 2010 (5pm – 8pm)
Session 2: 26 February 2010 (5pm – 8pm)
Session 3: 18 June 2010 (5pm – 8pm)

Bideford hospital

Session 1: 23 January 2010 (9:30am – 11:30am)
Session 2: 27 February 2010 (9:30am – 11:30am)
Extra session: 27 March 2010 (9:30am – 11:30am)
Session 3: 19 June 2010 (9:30am – 11:30am)

Holsworthy hospital

Session 1: 23 January 2010 (2pm – 4pm)
Session 2: 27 February 2010 (2pm – 4pm)
Session 3: 19 June 2010 (2pm – 4pm)