





HPV vaccine uptake in Ireland: 2011/2012

Background

Following a recommendation from the National Immunisation Advisory Committee, that human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine should be given to 12 year old girls, a routine Health Service Executive (HSE) school HPV vaccination programme began in May 2010 for girls in the first year of second level school and age equivalent in non second level schools (see below for cohort details). The aim of the programme is to protect girls from their future risk of developing cervical cancer.

A catch-up campaign for girls in sixth year of second level schools and their age equivalents in non-second level schools (see below for cohort details) was added in the academic year 2011/2012, this catch-up campaign will continue until 2013/2014.

Quadrivalent HPV vaccine, which protects against HPV types 6, 11, 16 and 18 associated with 70% of cervical cancer, is used in the school vaccination programme. A schedule of three vaccine doses given over a six month period is required. The HPV vaccine does not protect against all cervical cancers, so regular cervical screening is still needed.

The vaccinations are provided by vaccination teams from the Local Health Offices (LHOs) who go into schools in their areas to vaccinate or provide vaccination clinics free of charge for girls in the target cohorts. Please see the HSE-National Immunisation Office (NIO) website at www.immunisation.ie for detailed information on the HPV school vaccination programme.

The Health Information and Quality Authority and HSE target for uptake of three doses of vaccine for the routine HPV vaccination programme is >80% and the HSE target for the catch-up programme is >60% uptake.¹

HPV vaccinations provided through the schools immunisation programme are entered onto a database. Here we report on the uptake of HPV vaccine, provided through the school immunisation programme and recorded on the database, in the academic year 2011/2012 in Ireland.

Uptake for 2009/2010 and 2010/2011 cohorts of first year girls vaccinated from May 2010 was measured by manual reports and national uptake for the combined cohort was estimated at 81.9%.²

Cohort for vaccination in the academic year 2011/2012

The routine and catch-up cohorts for the 2011/2012 HPV vaccination programme as agreed with the Department of Education and Skills was as follows:

Routine HPV Vaccination programme

- All girls in first year of second level schools
- and their equivalents i.e. those who were born between 01/09/1999 and 31/08/2000
 - o attending special schools or
 - o registered with the National Education and Welfare Board to be home schooled.

Catch up HPV Vaccination Programme

- ➤ All girls in sixth year of second level schools
- and their equivalents i.e. those who were born between 01/09/1993 and 31/08/1994 and
 - o attending special schools* or
 - o registered with the National Education and Welfare Board to be home schooled* or
 - attending Youthreach and Community Training Centres funded by the Department of Education and Skills*.

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Tel: +353 1 876 5300 Fax: +353 1 856 1299 * As the catch up programme will run until the end of the academic year 2013/2014, areas could choose to vaccinate the total cohort in these groups in 2011/2012 i.e. girls who reached 15-18 years of age between September 1st 2011 and 31st August 2012 for operational reasons. (However, those who were not in the cohort's equivalent to sixth year of second level schools were to be recorded on the immunisation database as outside cohort in the academic year 2011/2012.)

Definitions used in this report

"at least stage 1" means a girl had a stage 1 HPV vaccine recorded on the database, this girl may or may not have had a stage 2 or a stage 3 HPV vaccine recorded on the database.

"at least stage 2" means a girl had a stage 2 HPV vaccine recorded on the database, she may or may not have had stage 1 or a stage 3 HPV vaccine recorded on the database.

"at least stage 3" means a girl had a stage 3 HPV vaccine recorded on the database, she may or may not have had a stage 1 or a stage 2 HPV vaccine recorded on the database.

Girls with at least stage 3 are considered to have completed a course of vaccination.

"**Home Schooled**" refers to girls registered with the National Education and Welfare Board to be educated at home. These girls were recorded on the database and reported here as "home schooled".

"Out of School" refers to vaccinated girls who were neither enrolled in a second level school, special school, Youthreach or Community Training Centre nor registered with National Education and Welfare Board as "home schooled".

Local Health Office (LHO) refers to the LHO the school is located in (it does not refer to the LHO the girl is resident in).

"Outside cohort" refers to those who were vaccinated but who were not in first year or sixth year of second level schools or their equivalents.

The **denominator** for girls in second level schools was defined as the number of girls on the school roll on 30th September 2011 for first year in the routine programme and for sixth year in the catch-up programme.

The **denominator** for age equivalent to first years in second level schools in the routine programme was defined as girls born between 01/09/1999 and 31/08/2000 on the school roll of special schools or registered with the National Education and Welfare Board on 30th September 2011.

The **denominator** for age equivalent to sixth years in second level schools in the catch-up programme was defined as girls born between 01/09/1993 and 31/08/1994 on the school roll of special schools or registered with the National Education and Welfare Board or attending Community Training Centres or Youthreach on 30th September 2011.

All the denominator data was entered on the immunisation database by the relevant System Administrator.

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Results

Ireland

The figures presented in this summary are based on data recorded on the immunisation system on the 21st August 2013. These figures are provisional and subject to change due to ongoing updating of data on the database.

First year girls in second level schools

In Ireland, 85.5% of girls in first year in second level schools were recorded as having received at least HPV stage 3 (considered to have completed a three dose course) (Table 1). Among the 32 Local Health Offices (LHOs) uptake of at least HPV stage 3 ranged from 73.3% to 91.7%; with four recording \geq 90.0% uptake and five recording \leq 80.0% uptake.

Sixth year girls in second level schools

In Ireland, 71.5% of girls in sixth year in second level schools were recorded as having at least HPV stage 3 (Table 2). Among the 32 LHOs uptake of HPV stage 3 ranged from 54.7% to 85.5%; with four recording ≥80.0% uptake and two recording <60.0% uptake.

Some girls in the catch-up cohort were vaccinated privately by General Practitioners or other medical agencies following the licensing of HPV vaccines in 2006/2007 and prior to the announcement in early 2011 that there would be a HPV catch-up programme.

First and Sixth year second level equivalent cohorts in non-second level schools/Outside cohort/Out of school In addition, 1,131 girls were recorded as having received at least HPV stage 3 (Table 3); of these 563 were recorded in the first year routine and sixth year catch up age equivalent cohorts in special schools, Youthreach, Community Training Centres, home schooled or out of school and 568 were recorded as being outside the cohorts recommended for vaccination.

The target cohort of girls in special schools, Community Training Centres, Youthreach, and Home Schooled were identified by birth cohort either equivalent to first years (born between 01/09/1999 and 31/08/2000) or equivalent to sixth years (born between 01/09/1993 and 31/08/1994). For operational reasons HSE vaccinating staff did not adhere strictly to these birth cohorts. Many of the vaccinations in these school settings were actually "outside cohort". The identification of denominator data for the target birth cohorts in these settings was difficult and staff focused on vaccinations rather than defining cohort numbers accurately. Therefore, this report gives the number of girls vaccinated in these settings reflecting activity in these settings rather than HPV vaccine uptake.

Total doses administered

A total of 139,646 administered vaccine doses were recorded.

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International comparison

Uptake of HPV vaccine in Ireland compares very favourably with estimates in other countries that have introduced and monitored HPV vaccination. ^{3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12}

United Kingdom

Girls aged 12-13 years of age

In England, 84.2% of girls aged 12 to 13 years who were eligible to routinely receive HPV vaccine in the academic year 2010/2011 completed the three dose course.³

In Scotland, 82.8% of girls in second year of secondary school in school year 2011/2012 had completed the three dose course of HPV immunisations by the end of the school year.⁴

In Wales, there was 85.5% uptake of a complete three dose course of HPV vaccine in girls in the first year of the routine campaign i.e. those reaching their 13th birthday between 01/09/2010 and 31/08/2011 (school year 8 during 2010-2011).⁵

In Northern Ireland, 84.6% of girls aged 12 to 13 years who were eligible to routinely receive HPV vaccine in the academic year 2010/2011 completed the three dose course.⁶

Older girls

In England, coverage of three HPV doses was 38.9% for those aged 17-18 years (i.e. born 01/09/1991 to 31/08/1992) in the academic year 2009/2010. This cohort predominantly received vaccine in general practice as many of these individuals were not in full-time education.⁷

In Scotland, girls who were aged 13 to aged under 18 years on 1 September 2008 (born 01/09/1990 to 31/08/1995) were offered HPV immunisation as part of the catch-up programme. Some girls aged 13 years were in second year of secondary school during the first year of the programme and were therefore eligible for immunisation as part of the routine programme. These girls are excluded from the catch-up cohort figures, as they were offered immunisation as part of the routine programme. Girls in the catch-up cohort attending school were offered HPV immunisation through a school-based programme. Older girls who had left school were offered immunisations as part of an "out-of-school" programme such as through community-based clinics or via their GP. By mid-August 2010, 65.5% of girls in the catch-up cohort had completed the full three dose course. Uptake rates for girls offered HPV immunisation as part of the school-based catch-up programme were over two times higher than uptake rates for girls offered immunisation as part of the out-of school catch-up programme. By mid-August 2012, 87.8% of girls in the school-based catch-up cohort had completed the three dose course of HPV immunisations compared to 32.3% of girls in the out-of-school catch-up cohort.

In Wales, uptake (at the time of publication of the report in August 2010) in the catch-up campaign for girls turning 19 years of age during 01/09/2009 to 31/08/2010 was 31.8% for three doses.⁹

Other European countries

The 2010 VENICE 2 survey showed that as of July 2010 18 of the 29 participating countries in Europe had integrated this vaccine into the national immunisation schedules. The 2010 survey showed variation in the HPV vaccination strategies among these countries. The recommended vaccination ages are diverse ranging from 10 to 18 years as are the ages for the catch-up campaigns, where they range from 12 to 24 years. In Austria boys and men are also recommended for vaccination. There was also variation between countries in the vaccination delivery infrastructure and financing. In 2010, out of seven European countries for which data were available, coverage for routine vaccinations with three doses varied between 17% and 81% with only Portugal (80%) and the United Kingdom (81%) having vaccination coverage rates of ≥80% for the full three-dose routine vaccinations. Out of six European countries for which data were available, coverage for catch-up vaccinations with three doses varied between 29% and 73%. 10

Australia

In Australia, for girls aged 12-13 years, uptake of three doses of HPV was 72% in 2009 and 69% in 2010. For girls aged 14-15 years and 16-17 years, uptake of three doses of HPV in the catch-up programme in schools, was between 69-72% for 2009, 2010 and 2011. For 18-19 year old girls in the community (outside of school) uptake of three doses of HPV was 62%, 66% and 67% in 2009, 2010 and 2011. Uptake of three doses of HPV for women aged 20 -26 years in the community was 32%, 35% and 39% for 2009, 2010 and 2011 respectively. 11

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United States

In the United States, estimated coverage for completed three dose series of HPV vaccine among girls aged 13–17 years was 5.9%, 17.9%, 26.7%, 32%, 34.8% and 33.4% from 2007 to 2012, respectively. 12

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Conclusions

The uptake of HPV vaccine in Ireland is very encouraging and reflects the huge effort and support put in by all staff and schools involved in the school vaccination programme. It is particularly encouraging to see the very high retention of girls within the programme once they commence vaccination. Uptake for 2009/2010 and 2010/2011 cohorts of first year girls vaccinated from May 2010 was measured by manual reports and national uptake for the combined cohort was estimated at 81.9%.

Uptake of HPV vaccine compares very favourably with estimates in other countries that have introduced HPV vaccination and monitored uptake.

Acknowledgements

Thank you to all HSE staff, Department of Education and Skills staff, staff in all educational settings, parents and girls, who implemented, participated in and supported the school HPV vaccination programme.

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Table 1

Academic Year:										
	2011 - 2012									
Cohort:	First Year (routine HPV vaccination programme)**									
School Category:	Second Level School									
Date Report Run:	21/08/2013									
Jptake Statistics										
					2011 - 2012					
			Firet \	/oar (routing		tion program	omo)**			
		First Year (routine HPV vaccination programme)**								
	LHO/HSE Region	Denominator	Numbers Vaccinated with:			% Immunisation Uptake				
HSE Region			At least	At least	At least	At least	At least	At least		
	515 6 11	000	Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3	Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3		
Sublin Mid Leinster	Dublin South	922	817	816	808	88.6%	88.5%	87.6%		
	Dublin South East	622	538	535	531	86.5%	86.0%	85.4%		
	Dublin South City	838 791	652	651	649	77.8%	77.7%	77.4% 79.8%		
	Dublin South West Dublin West	941	823	817	631 758	84.3% 87.5%	83.6% 86.8%	80.6%		
	Kildare/West Wicklow	1580	1397	1384	1367	88.4%	87.6%	86.5%		
	Wicklow	731	644	639	625	88.4%	87.6%	85.5%		
	Laois/Offaly	1021	951	946	930	93.1%	92.7%	91.1%		
	Longford/Westmeath	936	839	835	818	89.6%	89.2%	87.4%		
	Total Dublin Mid Leinster	8382	7328	7284	7117	87.4%	86.9%	84.9%		
ublin North East	Dublin North	1441	1278	1272	1244	88.7%	88.3%	86.3%		
dominion the Last	Dublin North Central	695	610	608	597	87.8%	87.5%	85.9%		
	Dublin North West	1121	1078	1064	1004	96.2%	94.9%	89.6%		
	Cavan/Monaghan	901	835	833	826	92.7%	92.5%	91.7%		
	Louth	1023	912	905	894	89.1%	88.5%	87.4%		
	Meath	1239	1104	1093	1079	89.1%	88.2%	87.1%		
	Total Dublin North East	6420	5817	5775	5644	90.6%	90.0%	87.9%		
outh	North Cork	574	489	486	472	85.2%	84.7%	82.2%		
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	North Lee - Cork	1192	1049	1040	996	88.0%	87.2%	83.6%		
	South Lee - Cork	1200	982	972	939	81.8%	81.0%	78.3%		
	West Cork	372	283	281	277	76.1%	75.5%	74.5%		
	Kerry	913	816	805	796	89.4%	88.2%	87.2%		
	Carlow/Kilkenny	907	832	829	818	91.7%	91.4%	90.2%		
	Tipperary South	555	482	475	463	86.8%	85.6%	83.4%		
	Waterford	824	756	752	743	91.7%	91.3%	90.2%		
	Wexford	1075	948	943	930	88.2%	87.7%	86.5%		
	Total South	7612	6637	6583	6434	87.2%	86.5%	84.5%		
West	Donegal	1173	1045	1042	1036	89.1%	88.8%	88.3%		
	Sligo/Leitrim	602	540	537	534	89.7%	89.2%	88.7%		
	Galway	1573	1337	1324	1312	85.0%	84.2%	83.4%		
	Mayo	798	598	593	585	74.9%	74.3%	73.3%		
	Roscommon	348	296	296	289	85.1%	85.1%	83.0%		
	Clare	730	652	647	633	89.3%	88.6%	86.7%		
	Limerick	967	890	886	865	92.0%	91.6%	89.5%		
	Tipperary North/East	895	788	786	775	88.0%	87.8%	86.6%		
		7086	6146	6111	6029	86.7%	86.2%	85.1%		

Local health office (LHO) refers to the LHO of the school.

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^{**}Please see Background section of document for details of cohorts recommended HPV vaccine during the academic year 2011/2012.

Table 2

Vaccine Type:	HPV										
Academic Year:	2011 - 2012										
Cohort	Sixth Year (catch up campaign)**										
School Category:	Second Level School										
Date Report Run:	21/08/2013										
Jptake Statistics											
phane Clationes					2011 - 2012						
	Sixth Year (catch up campaign) **										
HSE Region	LHO/HSE Region	Denominator	Numbers Vaccinated with:			% Immunisation Uptake					
			At least	At least	At least	At least	At least	At least			
Solution Milet I advantage	Duly lin Could	938	Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3	Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3			
Oublin Mid Leinster	Dublin South		596	593	583	63.5%	63.2%	62.2%			
	Dublin South East	569	335	333	332	58.9%	58.5%	58.3%			
	Dublin South City	908	590	582	562	65.0%	64.1%	61.9%			
	Dublin South West	710	623	601	575	87.7%	84.6%	81.0%			
	Dublin West	790	607	589	535	76.8%	74.6%	67.7%			
	Kildare/West Wicklow	1315	972	959	941	73.9%	72.9%	71.6%			
	Wicklow	613	504	491	455	82.2%	80.1%	74.2%			
	Laois/Offaly	805	580	572	549	72.0%	71.1%	68.2%			
	Longford/Westmeath	925	731	725	712	79.0%	78.4%	77.0%			
	Total Dublin Mid Leinster	7573	5538	5445	5244	73.1%	71.9%	69.2%			
ublin North East	Dublin North	1268	772	747	694	60.9%	58.9%	54.7%			
	Dublin North Central	572	388	376	361	67.8%	65.7%	63.1%			
	Dublin North West	956	673	658	605	70.4%	68.8%	63.3%			
	Cavan/Monaghan	875	673	673	667	76.9%	76.9%	76.2%			
	Louth	829	583	574	549	70.3%	69.2%	66.2%			
	Meath	886	650	632	619	73.4%	71.3%	69.9%			
	Total Dublin North East	5386	3739	3660	3495	69.4%	68.0%	64.9%			
South	North Cork	539	420	413	399	77.9%	76.6%	74.0%			
	North Lee - Cork	1236	902	886	842	73.0%	71.7%	68.1%			
	South Lee - Cork	965	701	689	667	72.6%	71.4%	69.1%			
	West Cork	326	209	209	206	64.1%	64.1%	63.2%			
	Kerry	945	793	788	767	83.9%	83.4%	81.2%			
	Carlow/Kilkenny	833	642	641	632	77.1%	77.0%	75.9%			
	Tipperary South	530	410	397	389	77.4%	74.9%	73.4%			
	Waterford	743	619	608	591	83.3%	81.8%	79.5%			
	Wexford	926	743	735	699	80.2%	79.4%	75.5%			
	Total South	7043	5439	5366	5192	77.2%	76.2%	73.7%			
West	Donegal	1038	856	854	836	82.5%	82.3%	80.5%			
	Sligo/Leitrim	524	458	454	448	87.4%	86.6%	85.5%			
	Galway	1565	1227	1205	1149	78.4%	77.0%	73.4%			
	Mayo	782	636	632	612	81.3%	80.8%	78.3%			
	Roscommon	338	285	279	269	84.3%	82.5%	79.6%			
	Clare	659	504	498	482	76.5%	75.6%	73.1%			
	Limerick	923	750	734	706	81.3%	79.5%	76.5%			
	Tipperary North/East	740	578	575	562	78.1%	77.7%	75.9%			
	Total West	6569	5294	5231	5064	80.6%	79.6%	77.1%			
		0/574	100010	10700	40005	75.00/	74.40/	74 50/			
otal		26571	20010	19702	18995	75.3%	74.1%	71.5%			

Local health office (LHO) refers to the LHO of the school.

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^{**}Please see Background section of document for details of cohorts recommended HPV vaccine during the academic year 2011/2012.

Table 3

/accine Type:	HPV							
Academic Year:	2011 - 2012							
Cohort and	Recommended cohorts** for vaccination and those outside cohort in special							
chool Category:	schools, youthreach, community training centres, home schooled and out of							
	school and those outside cohort in second level schools.							
ate Report Run:	21/08/2013							
ptake Statistics	ke Statistics							
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		Decommon	adad aabarta*	* for woodingtion				
		Recommended cohorts** for vaccination and those outside cohort in special						
				mmunity training				
				and out of school				
		and those outside cohort in second leve schools with:						
		At least	At least	At least				
HSE Region	LHO/HSE Region	Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3				
ublin Mid Leinster	Dublin South	22	22	18				
	Dublin South East	9	8	5				
	Dublin South City	69	68	51				
	Dublin South West	54	53	46				
	Dublin West	224	200	162				
	Kildare/West Wicklow	29	25	21				
	Wicklow	33	30	23				
	Laois/Offaly	33	26	23				
	Longford/Westmeath	49	49	43				
	Total Dublin Mid Leinster	522	481	392				
ublin North East	Dublin North	84	66	44				
	Dublin North Central	60	51	42				
	Dublin North West	53	37	25				
	Cavan/Monaghan	1	1	1				
	Louth	17	15	14				
	Meath	63	58	55				
	Total Dublin North East	278	228	181				
outh	North Cork	9	8	6				
	North Lee - Cork	34	33	29				
	South Lee - Cork	33	32	26				
	West Cork	2	2	0				
	Kerry	29	26	24				
	Carlow/Kilkenny	63	60	50				
	Tipperary South	22	20	20				
	Waterford	66	58	46				
	Wexford	87	82	71				
	Total South	345	321	272				
Vest	Donegal	11	9	6				
	Sligo/Leitrim	58	56	56				
	Galway	59	53	29				
	Mayo	61	59	54				
	Roscommon	9	8	5				
	Clare	39	36	28				
	Limerick	86	79	69				
	Tipperary North/East Limerick		37	32				
	Total West	368	337	279				
lome Schooled		3	3	3				
		4541		4407				
otal of LHOs and Ho out of School	me Schooled	1516 5	1370 5	1127 4				

Local health office (LHO) refers to the LHO of the school. Therefore, in reports the LHOs of homeschooled and out of school children do not appear.

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Similarily, "at least stage 2^m means a person had a stage 2 recorded on the database, they may or may not have had stage 1 or a stage 3 recorded.

Similarily, "at least stage 3" means a person had a stage 3 recorded on the database, they may or may not have had stage 1 or a stage 2 recorded.

 $^{^{**}}$ Please see Background section of document for details of cohorts recommended HPV vaccine during the academic year 2011/2012.

[&]quot;Outside cohort" refers to those who were vaccinated but who were not in first year or sixth year of second level schools or their equivalents.

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