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Attitudes towards HPV vaccination for boys among sexual health clinicians

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Background

**UK**
- Cervarix 2008
- Gardasil 2012
- Only for girls, age 12-13
- JCVI 2014
  - Consideration of HPV vaccination for MSM in GUM clinics

**Australia**
- Gardasil
- Girls from 2007
- Incidence of Warts $\to$ nearly zero in vaccinated girls and heterosexual men
- No change in incidence in MSM
- Girls and Boys from 2013
Purpose of Study

• To survey opinions of Sexual health clinicians in the UK on HPV vaccination for boys
Method

• Anonymous online survey
• Sent out to all BASHH members by email
• Open for 4 weeks only
• Publicised on Twitter
Demographics

- 131 responses in total
- 69% female
- 88% work in England

Occupation:
- Doctor 75%
- Nurse 14%
- Health Advisor 6%
- Other 7%
Do you agree with JCVI interim position statement?

- Yes: 95%
- No: 5%
If yes, which groups of MSM?

- All age groups
- Age 18-40
- Age 18-26
- Age 12-40
- Age 12-26
Which other groups should be vaccinated?

- HIV +ve age 12-26
- HIV +ve all ages
- HIV -ve immunocompromised
- Current HPV infection
- Other
Is your clinic vaccinating MSM?

- 54% are or are planning to vaccinate MSM
- Not all on NHS basis

![Pie chart showing the distribution of responses:]

- Yes: 33%
- We plan to: 21%
- No: 38%
- Don't know: 8%
Should there be universal vaccination?

- Yes: 94%
- No: 6%
Have you vaccinated your child?

- National Comparison
- 2013-14
- 86.7% uptake
Would you vaccinate a child?

- Daughter: 100%
- Son: 100%

- Yes
- Not Sure
- No
Highlighted comments

“I have a 9-year old son and will certainly get him vaccinated when he is 12”

“All boys should be vaccinated as may not identify as MSM when age 12”

“I think that universal vaccination is the only really effective way forward”
Conclusions

• Support for a targeted approach for MSM, but only in absence of a universal programme

• Sexual Health Clinicians support universal HPV vaccination
Acknowledgements

- Dr Liz Foley
- Dr Raj Patel

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