



Get free HPV vaccination at school



GO! Centrum voor
Leerlingenbegeleiding

Brussel

Met ons hart aan zet, voor elke ket!

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Your child can get the **HPV vaccine at school** this year to protect against certain cancers.

Please fill out this form (box below) and hand it in to the school.

Do you have any questions?

On the back of this letter, you will receive more information about the virus and the vaccine. Or surf to www.allesovervaccineren.be, the Flemish government's website on vaccinations. You can also call us CLB: 02 479 25 05.

Thank you for your cooperation,
The nurse and the doctor of the CLB.

HPV vaccine consent letter (vaccine: Gardasil 9)

Student's name + first name:

Date of birth (day/month/year)/...../.....

School + Class:

Telephone number where you (parent/guardian) can be reached during the day:

Do you agree with vaccination? Check the desired selection (x)

- ☐ **Yes, CLB** can vaccinate my child against the human papillomavirus (2 vaccines) at school.
- ☐ I want to have my child vaccinated by the **family doctor (GP) or paediatrician**. (Make an appointment with your doctor yourself, so they can order the vaccine in advance.).
- ☐ **No**, my child has already received these vaccines (fill in the dates):/...../..... and/...../.....
- ☐ **No**, I don't want to have my child vaccinated.

Important: Some children cannot be vaccinated at school, for example because of a severe **allergy***. **Indicate the correct answer (circle):**

Has your child ever had a severe (allergic)* reaction to a vaccine? **Yes No**

Is your child allergic* to yeast (saccharomyces cerevisiae)? **Yes No**

*Severe allergic reaction = swelling of the mouth or throat, and/or difficulty breathing and/or heart problems.)

Date:/...../.....

Parent/guardian signature:

HPV and vaccine information:

What is HPV?

HPV is short for **human papillomavirus**, a very common virus. You get infected through intimate or sexual contact. The risk of becoming infected with HPV at some point in your life is very high. There are more than 100 types of this virus. Often, an infection disappears spontaneously. But some types can cause cancer in the long term (cervical cancer, cancer of the anus, penis, mouth or throat). Some types also play a role in warts on the anus and genitals.

Why a vaccine?

The vaccine protects against 9 types of HPV. As a result, **your child has a much lower risk of HPV cancer after vaccination.**

Women have a much lower risk of developing cervical cancer later after vaccination, but it is still possible. For this reason, it is important that all women from the age of 25 undergo regular screening tests ('a smear' of the cervix).

Who gets the free vaccine?

Pupils in **the first year of secondary education**. (Or in special education, the year they turn 12)

Why now?

The vaccine is more likely to be effective if there has been **no contact with the virus yet** (i.e. before your child becomes sexually active). The Flemish government is now offering the vaccine free of charge to these students. You can also get vaccinated later (via the family doctor), but it's not free.

How does your child get the vaccine?

To be well protected, a vaccination in 2 stages is necessary: a 1st injection in the upper arm and at least 5 months later a 2nd injection in the upper arm.

Reactions after vaccination

A vaccine, like any drug, can have side effects. The risk of a serious side effect is very low. After vaccination, you may experience:

- red swelling or pain at the injection site
- feel like the flu or have a mild fever
- vomiting, diarrhea or abdominal pain,
- itching, red rash,
- joint pain.

These reactions are normal and disappear after one or more days. Contact your doctor if symptoms persist or worsen.

Who gives the vaccine?

The CLB nurse vaccinates. At this age, the vaccine itself is also free of charge at the GP (family doctor), but the consultation is often paid.

Vaccine authorisation:

The CLB will only give the vaccine if there is valid consent and there are no contraindications to vaccination (no risk of serious side effects).

Talk to your child about consent. **Submit this completed form to the school.**

Vaccinnet

The CLB registers the vaccines it administers in Vaccinnet. This way, the GP can also see which vaccine your child has received. You can also check it yourself via www.mijngezondheid.be.