**HPV Vaccine Health Agency Public Statements v. True Facts**

**Typical statements from PHE, JCVI, MHRA, NHS with respect to safety of HPV Vaccines.**

**PHE**

Factsheet for health professionals, Human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccination and Cervical Cancer, Addressing the myths [[1]](#endnote-1)

* Are side effects more frequently reported after HPV (vaccine) than for other vaccines? **No**.
* Does the vaccine cause serious long-term illnesses? **No.**
* The product insert mentions a number of serious and chronic conditions – including death – does that mean that the vaccine causes these conditions? **No.**

FOIA response 270948-fda53ca1, 26 June 2015

* **JCVI concluded it has no concerns about safety of the HPV vaccine**.

**JCVI and MHRA**

Minutes of HPV Sub-Committee Meeting, 24September 2014

The Subcommittee received **a report from MHRA and noted that no serious risks have been identified associated with either HPV vaccine in the UK [[2]](#endnote-2)**

**NHS**

NHS Choices [[3]](#endnote-3)

* It's a **safe vaccine** and there are very few girls who aren't suitable for HPV vaccination.
* Vaccines have to be thoroughly tested for safety before they're made routinely available.
* **Severe reactions are extremely rare**, in the order of around **one in a million**.

NHS leaflet – Frequently asked questions about the HPV vaccine [[4]](#endnote-4)

* **The side effects of the HPV vaccination are quite mild. Soreness, swelling and redness in the arm are common but wear off in a couple of days. More serious side effects are extremely rare.**

**Facts from Vaccine Manufacturers, Government Questions, Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) responses and World Health Organisation global data-base of adverse drug reaction reports.**

**Merck (manufacturer of Gardasil)**

Highlights of prescribing information[[5]](#endnote-5)

* Across the clinical studies, 258 individuals **128 or 0.8%**; placebo N = 130 or 1.0%) out of 29,323 (GARDASIL N = 15,706; AAHS control N = 13,023; or saline placebo N = 594**) individuals reported a serious systemic adverse reaction**. N.B. the control was AAHS adjuvant (Amorphous Aluminium Hydroxyphosphate Sulfate), a known neurotoxin.
* Across the clinical studies, **40 deaths** (GARDASIL N = 21 or 0.1%; placebo N = 19 or 0.1%) **were reported.**

**Parliamentary Questions**

Written question - 70973[[6]](#endnote-6)

* **No. of Serious Reports = 3,038** (source MHRA Yellow Card Scheme)

**Freedom of Information Requests to MHRA**

* Drug Analysis Print (DAP) to January 2017: **22,980 adverse reactions in 8,936 reports inc. 8 fatals.**
* Annual Vaccine Reports to JCVI[[7]](#endnote-7): since 2008, **significantly more serious adverse events than any other vaccine** in national programme.

**WHO Global Data-base of Adverse Drug Reactions[[8]](#endnote-8)**

HPV vaccine: **445 deaths, 1,052 neoplasms and 305,014 adverse reactions in 81,263 reports.**

1. <https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/580513/PHE_HPV_School_Nurse_A4_factsheet_1.pdf> [↑](#endnote-ref-1)
2. <https://app.box.com/s/600veu6zr6s3gjvx8mkt/file/27415150636> [↑](#endnote-ref-2)
3. <http://www.nhs.uk/Conditions/vaccinations/Pages/hpv-human-papillomavirus-vaccine.aspx> [↑](#endnote-ref-3)
4. <https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/215085/dh_133347.pdf> [↑](#endnote-ref-4)
5. <https://www.merck.com/product/usa/pi_circulars/g/gardasil/gardasil_pi.pdf> [↑](#endnote-ref-5)
6. <http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-04-13/70973> [↑](#endnote-ref-6)
7. <https://www.whatdotheyknow.com/request/annual_vaccine_adverse_reaction#incoming-686159> [↑](#endnote-ref-7)
8. <http://www.vigiaccess.org/> [↑](#endnote-ref-8)