Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA)

Immunisation and Vaccination 5-19 years

Immunisation protects people and communities from serious infectious diseases. As well as the individual being protected themselves, vaccinated people are less likely to be a source of infection to others. Therefore immunisations are a highly effective way of maintaining the health of the population by reducing the occurrence of infectious diseases.

Immunisations are commissioned by the NHS England Area Team, through General Practices and other providers. The role of local Public Health teams is to monitor and scrutinise the delivery of the vaccination programmes. Local Public Health teams can also give assurance to the Health and Wellbeing Board on the how these programmes are being delivered to the local communities and can aide the promotion and therefore uptake from the local population.

What do we know?

The Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) vaccination programme was introduced in 2008 across the United Kingdom. HPV is the name given to a family of viruses. These are very common and can be spread easily through sexual activity. Although many of these viruses are low-risk, some are associated with cervical cancer. The HPV vaccine protects against cervical cancer and NHS Choices estimates that around 400 lives could be saved in the UK each year as a result of implementing this vaccination programme.

The HPV vaccination is offered to girls in Year 8 (aged 12 to 13), who will require three injections over a six month period.

Facts, Figures and Trends

The latest data about the HPV vaccination programme is for 2014/15 and is available at Public Health Outcomes framework. The dataset shows that 768 (89.6%) eligible school girls in the borough received the HPV vaccine. This is equivalent to the national vaccine uptake rate of 89.4%. The south east regions value is 88.9%. This demonstrates that the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead has a similar uptake to the national and is also slightly above the regional figures. The data for 2014/15 cannot be compared to previous years as the HPV schedule has been changed.

National and Local Strategies (current best practices)

Immunisation Against Infectious Diseases, which is often referred to as the Green Book, is a document which explains how the immunisation programme has developed. It also has the latest information on vaccines and vaccination procedures for all the vaccine preventable infectious diseases that may occur in the UK.
The complete immunisation schedule in the UK, including the ages of when the vaccines should be given, can be found on the Public Health England website.

Additional information about the Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) and the vaccination programme can be found at on Cancer Research UK’s website.

NHS Choices – public facing information on immunisations and vaccinations routinely offered to everyone in the UK for free on the NHS.

National Child and Maternal Health Intelligence Network Dynamic Report into Vaccination and Immunisation – aggregate of Windsor and Maidenhead statistics and information about vaccination and immunisation.

Reducing differences in the uptake of immunisations (NICE, 2009) – guidance to support increase in immunisation uptake among those aged under 19 years from groups where uptake is low.

Vaccination planner – an interactive guide for parents and professionals that can develop a personalised schedule of immunisations and vaccinations planner.

What is this telling us?
The Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead have a high uptake for the HPV vaccination programme in 2014/15.

What are the key inequalities?

Encouragingly, research shows that uptake of the HPV vaccine is not lower in those from socioeconomically deprived backgrounds. This is important because women from deprived areas are both more likely to develop cervical cancer and less likely to attend screening.

Black and minority ethnic (BME) groups Research shows that uptake of the HPV is lower among young women from BME groups. One study has demonstrated that the odds of completing HPV vaccination in young women belonging to minority ethnic groups is approximately half that of White British young women.

A recent study of the barriers and facilitators to uptake of the school-based HPV vaccination programme in an ethnically diverse group of young women showed that barriers included stigma of vaccination against a sexually transmitted infection, low levels of information about the vaccine, and issues of consent. Issues around consent included varying commitment and capacity of schools to ensure that parental consent forms were returned, but also a reluctance of staff to accept consent of young person without parental consent, despite a legal right to do so.
What are the unmet needs/service gaps?

There remains a need to improve HPV vaccine uptake in girls

Recommendations

- To work with the school immunisation team towards enhanced data reporting in order to assess gaps in the service and address needs
- For schools to continue engaging with the school immunisation team to facilitate their work

Also see

- Childhood immunisations.
- Cancer screening.
- Sexual health