

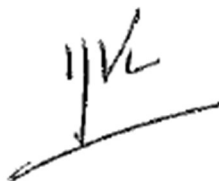
Dear Parent / Guardian,

National School-based Human Papillomavirus Vaccination Programme for Secondary One Female Students in Privately Funded Schools

1. The Health Promotion Board (HPB) is offering a school-based Human Papillomavirus (HPV) vaccination to female students in Privately Funded Schools under the school-based National HPV Vaccination Programme.
2. Cervical cancer is the **10th most common cancer and 8th most common cause of cancer deaths** among women in Singapore. The HPV vaccine helps protect your daughter/ward against cervical cancer, which is caused by HPV infection. In Singapore, HPV vaccination has been recommended for females aged between 9 and 26 years since 2010. HPV vaccination will now be offered as a school-based programme for your daughter/ward and is free of charge.
3. HPV vaccination will be conducted during the annual school-based health screening from January 2020.
 - i. Two doses are required for students who are below 15 years old. The first dose will be given this year and the second dose will be given in the following year.
 - ii. Three doses are required for students who are 15 years old or above. The first and second doses will be given this year (the second dose will be given a month after the first dose), and the third dose will be given in the following year.
4. Students may be asked to stay back in the afternoon to receive the vaccination in school to minimise disruption to the school curriculum. Students who have missed the vaccination in school will be given an appointment to receive the vaccination at HPB's appointed service provider's clinic.
5. Three types of HPV vaccines are available in Singapore – Cervarix, Gardasil, and Gardasil 9. Currently, Cervarix and Gardasil are recommended under the national immunisation schedule and provide comparable protection against cancer-causing HPV infection. Cervarix will be the vaccine used for the school-based programme. Gardasil 9 is a relatively new vaccine and the Ministry of Health is in the process of evaluating it to compare it to the other HPV vaccines.
6. Please complete and submit the consent form that we have provided to the school before the scheduled vaccination day.
7. For more information on HPV vaccination programme, please refer to the attached pamphlet.

Thank you.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K Vijaya', with a long horizontal stroke underneath.

Dr K Vijaya
Director
Youth Preventive Services Division
Health Promotion Board