



HSS (MD) 26/2008

AN ROINN

**Sláinte, Seirbhísí Sóisialta
agus Sábháilteachta Poiblí**

MÁNNYSTRIE O

**Poustie, Resydènter Heisin
an Fowk Siccar**

Room C5.15, Castle Buildings
Stormont, Belfast, BT4 3SQ

Tel: 02890 520563

Fax: 02890 520574

Email:

michael.mcbride@dhsspsni.gov.uk

Your Ref:

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Dear Colleague

INTRODUCTION OF HUMAN PAPILLOMAVIRUS VACCINE INTO THE CHILDHOOD IMMUNISATION PROGRAMME

You will be aware that the Department of Health, Social Services & Public Safety is introducing a Human Papillomavirus (HPV) immunisation programme, which will commence in September 2008. HPV immunisation will be offered routinely to all 12 to 13 year old girls (school year 9) to protect them against their future risk of cervical cancer. For information, refer to Chief professionals' letter HSS (MD) 15/2008 and letter HSS (MD) 16/2008.

A two-year catch-up campaign will start from the beginning of the 2009/2010 school year for all girls aged up to 18 years. Further information on the catch-up campaign will follow the implementation of the routine programme.

An extension to the HPV programme is being introduced in 2008, for one year to cover the 17-18 year old girls who would be missed from the catch-up programme. This programme will be delivered through primary care.

This information pack has been developed to support health professionals in the delivery of this campaign. This information and promotional materials can also be found at www.helpprotectyourself.info.

