

Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee

BRIEFING NOTE – No. 03/19

Date: March 2019

Briefing paper to: Members of the Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Purpose: To brief members of the Committee on current vaccination coverage for adolescents in Medway

Title: Vaccination Coverage in Medway among adolescents

Briefing from: James Williams, Director of Public Health; John Rodriguez, Consultant in Public Health, Kent and Medway Screening and Immunisation Lead, Public Health England South East and NHS England South East

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1. Background

1.1. At the Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee on the 10th January, members were presented with an update on child immunisations, led by NHS England. As this update specifically related to childhood vaccinations, members requested a briefing on immunisation coverage among older school aged children (adolescents).

2. Routine immunisations for school aged children

2.1. NHS England are responsible for commissioning immunisation programmes. There are three vaccinations for secondary school age children in England's routine immunisation schedule. These vaccines, the diseases they protect against and the age at which they are due are outlined in the below table.

Age Due	Diseases Protected Against	Vaccine Given
Girls aged 12 to 13 years	Cervical cancer caused by human papillomavirus (HPV) types 16 and 18 (and genital warts caused by types 6 and 11)	HPV (two doses 6-24 months apart)
Fourteen years old (school year 9)	Tetanus, diphtheria and polio	Td/IPV
	Protects against four different strains of the meningococcal bacteria (A, C, W, Y) that cause meningitis and blood poisoning	MenACWY

- 2.2. The above vaccinations are given in school by the Kent and Medway school and community immunisation service. Individuals who miss their vaccination at a booked school session (e.g. if they are unwell or absent from school on the day) they can catch up on subsequent visits by the service or may attend a community immunisations clinic in Medway for vaccination.
- 2.3. Coverage data has been provided below for each of these vaccinations for both Medway and England.

3. Human papillomavirus (HPV)

Year 8 girls (12-13 years old): Percentage vaccinated with one dose²

	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
England	89.4%	87.0%	87.2%	86.9%
Medway	85.6%	81.7%	84.6%	89.2%

- 3.1. Looking at all local authority areas in England, coverage of one dose of HPV vaccination among girls in year 8 ranged from 67.8% to 95.3%.

Year 9 girls (13-14 years old): Vaccinated with two doses²

	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
England	85.1%	83.1%	83.8%
Medway	81.7%	72.7%	83.5%

- 3.2. Looking at all local authority areas in England, coverage of two doses of HPV vaccination among girls in year 9 ranged from 65.3% to 94.3%.

4. Tetanus, diphtheria and polio

- 4.1. Tetanus, diphtheria and polio vaccines are offered to babies at eight, 12 and 16 weeks of age (primary course), a pre-school booster at three years and four months, and a school aged booster at 14 years old (offered in year 9).
- 4.2. The school aged booster is the fifth dose of tetanus, diphtheria and polio (Td/IPV) vaccine in the routine immunisation schedule and completes the course, providing long-term protection against all three diseases³. Coverage data for this vaccination is outlined in the table below.

Year 9 (13-14 year olds): Percentage vaccinated with Td/IPV booster

	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
England	83.5%	83.0%	85.5%
Medway	-	79.8%	86.1%

- 4.3. Looking across local authorities in England, coverage ranged from 39.6% to 97.0%.

5. **Meningococcal A, C, W and Y (MenACWY)**

- 5.1. Meningococcal A, C, W and Y (MenACWY) immunisation was added to the national immunisation programme in August 2015 following advice from the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI) in response to an increased number of meningococcal W (MenW) cases⁴. The vaccine is routinely given in school year 9. Coverage for this vaccine is shown in the table below. Catch-up opportunities are available for all children and young adults up until the age of 20.

Year 10 (14-15 year olds): Percentage vaccinated with MenACWY

	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
England	77.2%	82.5%	84.6%
Medway	73.4%	82.1%	84.9%

- 5.2. When looking at all local authority areas in England, coverage ranged from 57.5% to 98.4%.

6. **References**

- [1] Public Health England. (2018). Fingertips. Child and Maternal Health. Vaccines and Immunisations. [92319 - 3.03xii - Population vaccination coverage for one dose \(females 12-13 years old\) – HPV.](#)
- [2] Public Health England. (2018). [HPV vaccine coverage annual report for 2017 to 2018.](#)
- [3] Public Health England. (2019). [School leaver booster \(Td/IPV\): vaccine coverage estimates.](#)
- [4] Public Health England. (2019). [Meningococcal ACWY immunisation programme: vaccine coverage estimates.](#)