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7th August 2024

Deputy Smith
Dáil Éireann,
Kildare Street,
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Re: 32879/24 - To ask the Minister for Health the estimated cost of providing the HPV vaccine for free to adults who have not received it but want to access it through their GP; and if he will make a statement on the matter. - Duncan Smith

Dear Deputy Smith

I refer to the above Parliamentary Question which has been referred by the Minister for Health to the Health Service Executive for direct response.

Since 2010 the HSE has offered HPV vaccine to female students in first year of second level and this programme was expanded in 2019 to include male students in first year. To date over 550,000 students have received HPV vaccine. This programme will continue in the 2024/2025 academic year in first year and age equivalent in special schools and people who are home schooled.

The HPV vaccine is also available in sexual health clinics for certain eligible groups.

The HSE implements programmes on behalf of the Department of Health in line with immunisation policy. It is currently not Department of Health immunisation policy to provide the HPV vaccine for free to adults who have not received it but want to access it through their GP. Therefore, it is not possible to provide an estimated amount of providing the programme.

Information about the HPV vaccine is available from www.hpv.ie

Yours sincerely,

Dr Lucy Jessop
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