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**PE1477/H**

Scottish Parliament  
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Sent by email to: [petitions@scottish.parliament.uk](mailto:petitions@scottish.parliament.uk)

24 January 2014

Dear Stuart,

**RE: CONSIDERATION OF PETITION PE1477: Question for the JCVI**

In response to the question from the public petitions committee please see the response below from the Joint Committee for Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI):

Question for the JCVI: The Committee was interested to hear reports that the HPV vaccine could be given to boys as well as girls in UK. In light of this, please provide details about any plans to revisit an extension of the HPV vaccination programme to boys.

Response from the JCVI: The reports that the public petitions committee refers to concern the minutes of the October 2013 meeting of the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI). At the October meeting the JCVI agreed that consideration of options for vaccinating MSM should be prioritised and that further work was required to consider a number of key issues around HPV vaccination, including:

- a two dose schedule (bivalent/quadrivalent HPV vaccine),
- vaccinating MSM on attendance at sexual health services,
- the wider benefits of HPV immunisation beyond cervical cancer and warts
- vaccination of adolescent males,
- the potential use of higher valency HPV vaccines

Due to the complexity and interrelatedness of some of the issues and the wealth of information to assess, the JCVI concluded that a HPV sub-committee should be formed. The HPV subcommittee has very recently met to consider these items and will be reporting its initial findings to the JCVI at the February 2014. The minutes of the JCVI February 2014 meeting should become available within 6 weeks of the meeting.

Yours Sincerely

Andrew Pollard FRCPCH PhD

JCVI Chair

Jonathan Crofts

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