

HPV vaccination linked to lower risk of precancerous condition

August 5 2020



Gardasil vaccine and box. Image: Wikipedia

Vaccination against the human papilloma virus (HPV) reduces the risk of a condition that often leads to cervical cancer, according to an analysis of Danish health registry data.

The study, which is published in *Acta Obstetricia et Gynecologica Scandinavica*, followed two groups of women: those born in 1993 who were offered free HPV-vaccination at the age of 15 years, and those born in 1983 who had not been offered free HPV-vaccination. Individuals were followed from age 15 to 25 years.

Vaccination coverage was 91% in the 1993 birth group and less than 0.1% in the 1983 group. A precancerous condition called high-grade cervical intraepithelial neoplasia was detected in 4% of the 15,748 screened women born in 1983 and in 3% of the 19,951 screened women born in 1993.

The investigators found a [reduced risk](#) of about 30% for high-grade cervical intraepithelial neoplasia in the 1993 birth group offered free HPV-vaccination as girls compared with the 1983 birth group not offered free vaccination.

More information: Lise Holst Thamsborg et al, High-grade cervical lesions after vaccination against human papillomavirus: A Danish cohort study, *Acta Obstetricia et Gynecologica Scandinavica* (2020). [DOI: 10.1111/aogs.13935](#)

Provided by Wiley

Citation: HPV vaccination linked to lower risk of precancerous condition (2020, August 5) retrieved 3 May 2024 from <https://medicalxpress.com/news/2020-08-hpv-vaccination-linked-precancerous-condition.html>

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