Subject information for participation in medical research

Human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine effectiveness study among men who have sex with men (HPV4M)

Official title (in Dutch): Onderzoek naar effectiviteit van humaan papillomavirus (HPV) vaccin onder mannen die seks hebben met mannen

Introduction

Dear Sir,

With this letter, we would like to ask you to take part in a medical study. Participation is voluntary. We would like to measure how often HPV infections is found in men who have sex with men (MSM) aged 19-26 years. We compare MSM who have not received the HPV vaccination with MSM who have received the HPV vaccination.. You can read about the medical study in this information sheet, what it means for you, and what the pros and cons are. It is a lot of information. Can you please read the information and decide if you want to take part? If you want to take part, complete the form in Appendix D.

Ask your questions

You can take your decision based on the information in this information sheet. We also suggest that you do this:

- Put your questions to the investigator who gave you this information.
- Talk to your partner, family or friends about this study.
- Ask questions to the independent expert. For contact details, go to Appendix A.
- Read the information on www.rijksoverheid.nl/mensenonderzoek.

1. General information

The Public Health Service (GGD) of Amsterdam has set up this study. Below, we always call the Public Health Service (GGD) of Amsterdam the 'sponsor'.

Investigators, these can be doctors or research nurses. They conduct the study at the Sexual Health Clinic (SHC) at the Public Health Service (GGD) of Amsterdam. GlaxoSmithKline plc (GSK) pays for the execution of this research, but has no role in the design, analyses, and interpretation of the study and results.

Participants in a medical study are often called subjects. Subject can be healthy subjects as well as patients.

This study needs 430 subjects that receive the HPV vaccine (Group 1) and 300 subjects that have not received the HPV vaccine (Group 2). This letter is written for participants of Group 2. The subjects are people that visit the Sexual Health Clinic (SHC) of the Public Health Service of Amsterdam in the Netherlands.

The Medical Ethics Review Committee of Academisch Medisch Centrum Amsterdam has approved this study.

2. What is the purpose of the study?

In this study we want to measure how often HPV infections are found in men who have sex with men (MSM) who receive the medicinal product HPV vaccine (Cervarix) and how often the HPV infections are found in MSM that did not receive the HPV vaccination (Cervarix). This is done among MSM aged 19-26 years. We do this by measuring how many HPV infections MSM have before vaccination and how many HPV infections they have two years after vaccination (Group 1). Furthermore, we compare MSM who received the HPV vaccination (Group 1) with MSM who did not receive the HPV vaccination (Group 2). The HPV vaccine has been found to work well against HPV infections and is found to be safe. As a standard procedure, the safety of the vaccine will also be monitored.

3. What is the background of the study?

4. The RIVM (Rijksinstituut voor Volksgezondheid en Milieu) invited all men and women aged 19-26 years old for HPV vaccination in the calendar year 2023. This vaccine prevents new HPV infections. Some of these HPV infections can cause cervical, anal, penile, or head- and neck cancer several years later. In this study, we want to measure how often HPV infections are found in MSM who received the HPV vaccine and did not receive the HPV vaccine. The results are important to help plan vaccination approaches for the future.**What happens during the study?**

The study consists of two periods during which MSM will be recruited.

We recruited all MSM that are vaccinated against HPV in 2023 (Group 1). Now, in 2025 we will recruit MSM that are not vaccinated against HPV (Group 2). This group will serve as the comparison group (Group 1). The HPV vaccine is not offered anymore to men 19 years and older after 2023 by the RIVM.

How long will the study take?
Taking part in this study will take about 60 minutes.

Step 1: are you eligible to take part?
First, we want to know if you are eligible to take part. That is the reason that the investigator will ask you several questions to check if:

- You are born between 1996 and 2003
- You are male and you have had sex with another man during the preceding 6 months
- You have not been HPV vaccinated before
- You are able to read and understand Dutch or English
- You are not allergic to one or more components of the HPV vaccine
- You do not have a history of anal cancer or anal intraepithelial neoplasia (AIN)
- You agree to sign the informed consent
- You would be willing to receive the HPV vaccine. Unfortunately we can not offer you the HPV vaccination as part of this study.

Please note: it is possible that you are not eligible for this study, even if you are healthy. The investigator will tell you more about this.

Step 2:
For this study, we will have 2 groups:

- Group 1. The people in this group will receive the HPV vaccination (Cervarix) in 2023.
- Group 2. The people in this group are participating in this study in calendar year 2025 and have not been HPV vaccinated (yet).

You are currently being recruited for Group 2.

Step 3: study and measurements
For this study, only today's visit at the Sexual Health Clinic (SHC) is necessary. The visit last about 30 minutes. During this visit a nurse will ask you to provide a blood sample, an anal swab, a penile glans sample, and an oral swish-and-gargle sample. The research nurse will explain to you how to take an anal swab and a swab of skin from the penis and glans. The nurse will also explain how to do take a swish-and-gargle sample. The nurse will take 5 mL venous blood. In addition to the questions asked during your regular consultation we will ask you to complete a small additional questionnaire. These additional questions will be about general information, your general health, sexual behaviour and your use of alcohol, drugs and tobacco. It will take you around 5-10 minutes to complete this questionnaire. In Appendix B a schematic representation of the study measurements is provided.

Step 4: follow-up check
What is the difference with standard care?
There is no difference with the standard care.

5. What agreements do we make with you?

No further agreements are necessary.

During your appointment you will receive an appointment card of the study. This card will contain your study number, contact details of the study staff, and your next appointment.

6. What side effects, adverse effects or discomforts could you experience?

What are the possible discomforts you may experience with checks or measurements during the study?

- Taking a blood sample can be a little painful. In rare occasions, you could get a bruise as a result.
- Taking an anal or penile swab can be a little uncomfortable. A sample of the penis skin will be taken by rubbing the glans of the penis (externally).

7. What are the pros and cons if you take part in the study?

Taking part in the study can have pros and cons. We will list them below. Think about this carefully and talk to other people about it.

You yourself do not benefit from taking part in this study. Yet, if you take part you will help the investigators to get more insight into how well the HPV vaccine works in MSM aged 19-26 years. The results from this study will help decide whether it is relevant to provide the HPV vaccine routinely to MSM aged 19-26 years in the future.

Taking part in the study can have these cons:

- There may be some discomfort from the measurements during the study.
- Taking part in the study will cost you extra time.

You do not wish to participate in the study?
It is up to you to decide if you wish to participate in the study.

8. When does the study end?

The study ends after the first visit.

The investigator will let you know if there is any new information about the study that is important to you. The investigator will then ask you if you want to continue to take part.

What happens if you stop participating in the study?
The investigators use the data and body material (for example to check whether you had or did not have anal HPV), that have been collected up to the moment that you decide to stop participating in the study. If you wish, we will destroy the collected body material. Please let the investigator know.

The entire study ends when all the participants have finished. However, we will ask you if we may contact you in the future for any potential follow-up studies.

9. What happens after the study has ended?

Will you get the results of the study?
About three months after the study has ended, the investigator will inform you about the most important results of the study.

10. What will be done with your data and body material?

Are you taking part in the study? Then you also give your consent to collect, use and store your data and body material.

What data do we store?

We store these data:

- your name
- your gender
- your address
- your date of birth
- information about your health
- information about medication you use
- (medical) information that we collect during your visit at the SHC (among which sexually transmitted infection [STI] status,vaccination status and medication use)

What body material do we store?

We collect, use and store tubes of blood and anal swab, a penile glans sample, and an oral swish-and-gargle sample.

Why do we collect, use and store your data and body material?

We collect, use and store your data and your body material to answer the questions of this study. And to be able to publish the results. Data and/or body material can be used by the sponsor and research institutes that help the sponsor with the practical performance, the analysis of data, and measurements on tissue samples.

How do we protect your privacy?

To protect your privacy, we give a code to your data and your body material. We only put this code on your data and body material. Your name and address will be stored separately from the rest of the study data. We keep the key to the code in a safe place in a protected environment on the server and a locked closet in a locked room at the Public Health Service (GGD) of Amsterdam. When we process your data and body material, we always use only that code. Even in reports and publications about the study, nobody will be able to see that it was about you.

Who can see your data?

Some people can see your name and other personal information without a code. This could include data specifically collected for this study, but also data from your medical file. These are people checking whether the investigators are carrying out the study properly and reliably. These persons can access your data:

- An auditor who is hired by the Public Health Service (GGD) of Amsterdam.
- National and international supervisory authorities.
- Research nurses and medical doctors of the research team of the Public Health Service of Amsterdam.

These people will keep your information confidential. We ask you to give permission for this access. The Health and Youth Inspectorate can access your personal information without your permission.

For how long do we store your data and body material?
We store your data at the Public Health Service for 25 years. Your body material will be stored for 10 years. It will be stored for this period in order to perform new analyses related to this study in the course of this study. If no longer needed, we will destroy your body material.

Can we use your data and body material for other research?
Your collected data and your (remaining) body material may also be important for other medical research about infectious diseases. For this purpose, your data will be stored at the Public Health Service (GGD) of Amsterdam for 25 years and your body material for 10 years. Please indicate in the consent form whether you agree with this. Do you not want to give your consent? Then you can still take part in this study. You will get the same healthcare.

Can you take back your consent for the use of your data?
You can take back your consent for the use of your data at any time. Please tell the investigator if you wish to do so. This applies both to the use in this study and to the use in other medical research. But please note: if you take back your consent, and the investigators have already collected data for research, they are still allowed to use this information. The investigators will destroy your body material after you take back your consent. But if assessments with your body material have been carried out, the investigator can continue to use the results.

Do you want to know more about your privacy?

- Do you want to know more about your rights when processing personal data? Visit www.autoriteitpersoonsgegevens.nl.
- Do you have questions about your rights? Or do you have a complaint about the processing of your personal data? Please contact the person who is responsible for processing your personal data. For the present, this is:
    - Public Health Service of Amsterdam. See Appendix A for contact details, and website.
- If you have any complaints about the processing of your personal data, we recommend that you first discuss them with the research team. You can also contact the Data dProtection Officer of Public Health Service of Amsterdam. Or you can submit a complaint to the Dutch Data Protection Authority.

Where can you find more information about the study?
You can find more information about the study on the following website: https://euclinicaltrials.eu/ . After the study, the website may show a summary of the results of this study. You can find the study by searching for '2022-502224-49-00' .

11. Will you receive compensation if you participate in the study?

Additional tests done by the study will not cost you anything. Neither will you get any compensation.

12. Are you insured during the study?

You are not additionally insured for this study. This is because taking part in the study has no additional risks. That is why the Public Health Service (GGD) Amsterdam, following advice from the medical ethics review committee of the Amsterdam UMC, does not have to take out additional insurance from.

13. We will not inform other organizations about your participation.

No other organizations will be informed about your participation.

14. Do you have any questions?

You can ask the investigators of the research team questions about the study.

Would you like to get advice from someone who is independent from the study? Then contact the independent expert, for contact details go to appendix A. He knows a lot about the study, but is not a part of this study.

Do you have a complaint? Discuss it with the investigators of the research team. If you prefer not to do so, please contact the complaints coordinator of GGD Amsterdam or the privacy officer of GGD Amsterdam or the Dutch Data Protection Authority. Appendix A tells you where to find this.

15. How do you give consent for the study?

You can first think carefully about this study. Then you tell the investigator if you understand the information and if you want to take part or not. If you want to take part, fill in the consent form that you can find with this information sheet. You and the investigator will both get a signed version of this consent form.

Thank you for your attention.

16. Appendices to this information

Appendix A: contact details for Public Health Service of Amsterdam

Principal investigator:
Name:<<not visible for CTIS submission reason>>
Role: Senior Epidemiologist, Public Health Service of Amsterdam
Phone: <<not visible for CTIS submission reason>>
Availability: Monday through Friday from 9:00 to 17:00

Research nurse:
Name:<<not visible for CTIS submission reason>>
Phone: <<not visible for CTIS submission reason>>
Availability: Monday through Friday from 9:00 to 17:00

Independent expert:
Name:<<not visible for CTIS submission reason>>,
Role: Independent expert and physician
Phone: <<not visible for CTIS submission reason>>
Availability: Monday through Friday from 9:00 to 17:00

Complaints: You can find the ways to contact the complaints office at https://www.ggd.amsterdam.nl/ggd/klachten/ (in Dutch). Or send email to klachten@ggd.amsterdam.nl.

Privacy Officer of the institution: <<not visible for CTIS submission reason>> can be contacted through email: <<not visible for CTIS submission reason>>@ggd.amsterdam.nl

For more information about your rights regarding privacy: https://www.ggd.amsterdam.nl/privacy-ggd-amsterdam/algemene-privacyverklaring-ggd-amsterdam/

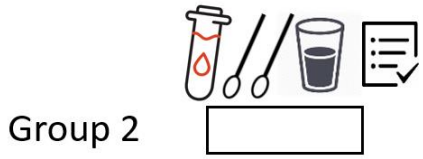
If you have any questions, objections or comments about the processing of your personal data, you can ask the study staff (hpvman@ggd.amsterdam.nl).

Coordinating investigator:
Name:<<not visible for CTIS submission reason>>,
Role: Postdoctoral Epidemiologist, Public Health Service of Amsterdam
Phone: <<not visible for CTIS submission reason>>
Availability: Monday through Friday from 9:00 to 17:00

For emergency:
For emergencies call the national emergency number 112

Appendix B: Overview of measurements

All measurements are listed under Step 3 of the section ‘4. What happens during the study?‘.



Schematic representation of study measurements.

Appendix C: Side Effects, Adverse Effects and Discomforts

You will not receive the HPV vaccination as part of this study. Therefore no side effect, adverse effects and discomforts are listed here.

Appendix D: Informed consent form – subject

Belonging to

Human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine effectiveness study among men who have sex with men (HPV4M)

- I have read the information sheet. I was able to ask questions. My questions have been answered well enough. I had enough time to decide if I wanted to take part.
- I know that taking part is voluntary. I also know that at any time I can decide not to take part in the study. Or to stop taking part. I do not have to explain why.
- I give consent to collect and use my routinely collected and study collected data and body material. The investigators only do this to answer the question of this study.
- I know that some people will be able to see all of my data to review the study. These people are mentioned in this information sheet. I give consent to let them see my data for this review.

– Please tick yes or no in the table below.

I give consent to store my data to use for other research, as stated in the information sheet.	Yes ☐	No☐
I give consent to have my (remaining) body material stored for use in other research, as stated in the information sheet. The body material is stored for this purpose for another 10 years.	Yes ☐	No☐
I give consent to ask me after this study if I want to participate in a follow-up study.	Yes ☐	No☐
I give consent to contact me after the study with the most important results.	Yes ☐	No☐

- I want to take part in this study.

My name is (subject): ……..

Signature: …… Date : __/__/__

I declare that I have fully informed this subject about the study mentioned.

If any information becomes known during the study that could influence the subject's consent, I will let this subject know in good time.

Investigator name (or their representative): .....

Signature:…… Date: __/__/__

Additional information was given by:
Name:……..
Job title:……
Signature:…… Date: __/__/__

The study subject will receive a complete information sheet, together with a signed version of the consent form.