Dear parent/caregiver

I am a researcher from the University of Bristol, undertaking my PhD. I am part of an international research group of psychologists, behavioural scientists and clinicians funded by the European Union’s Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme [JITSUVAX](https://jitsuvax.notion.site/jitsuvax/JITSUVAX-97638f0709a249f18de1f3e036526600). For the current research, we are also joined by the [Bristol Young Person’s Advisory Group](https://generationr.org.uk/bristol/) (YPAG), a group of young people aged 10-18 who help researchers such as myself develop research suitable for their age group.

We are interested in understanding adolescent attitudes towards the HPV vaccine, which is now available to both girls and boys in the UK, and how these may be influenced by information they see on social media. It is known that incorrect online information can negatively influence health choices. However, to date, research has primarily considered parental views and not those of children. The influence of social media has not yet been researched, so this is a new study that will add value to the scientific field.

We are writing to you today to ask for your help in our academic research, which we hope, will improve adolescents’ understanding of HPV, the vaccine and how they identify incorrect information that they may see online.

For this study, we will ask participants (your children) to fill in an online survey that YPAG and I have co-developed. The survey will tell us about their knowledge of HPV, what they understand about the vaccines, how they make their vaccine decisions with you, and their use of social media. We will then use this information to understand what may be influencing HPV vaccine attitudes. Finally, we will use this information in a future study that will be designed to combat online misinformation and improve knowledge of HPV, enabling informed vaccine discussions and decisions.

The survey is available from either of the following links where you will also find full details of the research.

<https://bristolexppsych.eu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_3JHsR7tYVq37zvw>

Bit.ly: https://bit.ly/TikTokHPV

We are hoping to encourage and reward participation with the potential of winning an online shopping voucher worth £20 for your child.

We would be grateful if you would consider your child’s participation and thank you for taking the time to consider our request.

Yours faithfully

Michelle Barden, YPAG, Stephan Lewandowsky, Dawn Holford

University of Bristol.