Dear [Name],

As a head and neck cancer survivor, I write regarding the critical issue of declining HPV vaccination rates in the UK. Having experienced treatment firsthand, I support [**Oracle Head & Neck Cancer UK**](https://oraclehnc.org.uk) to raise awareness of this increasingly prevalent disease.

The statistics are concerning head and neck cancers affect 12,500 people annually, increasing by 30% each year, with each case costing the NHS approximately £250,000. Of the thirty-four daily diagnoses, only one-third are detected at early stages. It ranks as the fourth most common cancer in men and eighth overall, often resulting in significant disabilities affecting speech, eating and facial appearance.

**Notably, 75% of tonsil, tongue base and throat cancers are HPV-related. The HPV vaccination programme for Year 9 pupils could substantially reduce future cancer rates, yet current uptake has fallen from 80% pre-pandemic to merely 56% for girls and 52% for boys—significantly below European averages.**

Recent research from the University of Sheffield and DHSC reveals a 47% increase in throat cancer cases between 2013-2020, with disproportionate impact on deprived areas. Furthermore, Cancer Research UK reports that only half of head and neck cancer patients begin treatment within the NHS's 62-day target.

Whilst addressing current cancer trends is complex, increasing HPV vaccination rates represents a tangible preventive measure. By 2058, the vaccine could prevent 100,000 UK cancer cases. Oracle's [**'Sign away cancer'**](https://oraclehnc.org.uk/signawaycancer999) campaign promotes vaccination among Year 9 pupils, but requires governmental support to:

* Enhance awareness of the vaccination programme
* Encourage catch-up vaccination for those aged 12-25 who missed their school vaccines.

I await your response regarding Labour's strategy to improve vaccine uptake and reduce future cancer incidence.

Yours sincerely,