

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](#) 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](#)' 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,