



Basic Education  
Health

15 January 2014

Dear Parent/Guardian/Caregiver

***Invitation to receive Human Papillomavirus (HPV) vaccination***

Cervical cancer is an important health problem in our country. As Ministers this is of great concern to us because:

- It is one of the most common cancers affecting women in South Africa
- Many women die from cervical cancer

The leading cause of cervical cancer is the human papillomavirus which we call HPV. We now have a very safe vaccine which protects against HPV and cervical cancer. The World Health Organization recommends that this vaccine be given to young girls.

The South African government is for the first time offering the HPV vaccination to all girls in grade 4 throughout the country.

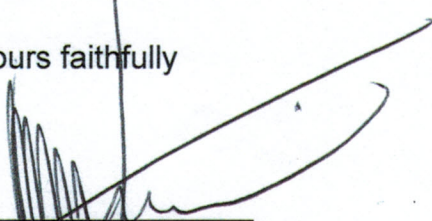
It gives us great pleasure to invite your daughter to receive this vaccination at her school.

She will receive the first dose of the HPV vaccine in March 2014 and then the second dose will be given to her in September-October 2014.

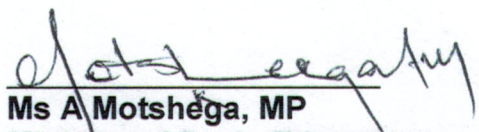
This vaccination cannot be given to your daughter without your permission. If you would like to take up our invitation please complete the attached consent documents.

For more information about the HPV vaccine you can talk to the clinic sister or visit the Department of Health website: [www.doh.gov.za](http://www.doh.gov.za)

Yours faithfully



Dr. A. Mokoaleli, MP  
Minister of Health



Ms A. Motshega, MP  
Minister of Basic Education