

**Health Economics****Hepatitis B vaccination of S1 school pupils****Date**

Completed 2003

**Location**

Glasgow secondary schools

**Key Partners**SCIEH  
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In addition to work within the Public Health Department, the health economics team has linked up with a range of other organisations to carry out pieces of work in recent years. An example is given below and also at series no 004/6 – Arrest Referral Scheme.

**Hepatitis B vaccination of S1 school pupils**

In conjunction with the Scottish Centre for Environmental Health (SCIEH), a pilot project was launched in 2001/02 with the aim of vaccinating all first year school pupils in Glasgow against Hepatitis B. This so-called 'universal' vaccination approach contrasts with the incumbent method where only individuals at high-risk of exposure (e.g. health care workers) are vaccinated. The economists worked on this project to estimate the cost to the health service of conducting a universal schools vaccination programme, both in terms of the economic costs incurred during the pilot programme and the projected annual running costs if the scheme is introduced routinely in Glasgow.

The pilot programme was estimated to have had an economic cost of £396,200 giving a cost per pupil vaccinated of £42. The pilot project used a vaccine schedule that necessitated three doses to be given to each pupil. If however the scheme was rolled out in the future, vaccination could be offered using a two-dose regime. The estimated annual economic cost of the two dose scheme was £296,047 or £33 per pupil. Further work is planned to enable comparison of this approach with the current selective vaccination in order to assess which approach is the more cost-effective.