



UK Health  
Security  
Agency

# Y&H Public Health Taster Day – Sexual Health

Georgina Wilkinson – Sexual Health Facilitator, Yorkshire & Humber  
[Georgina.wilkinson@ukhsa.gov.uk](mailto:Georgina.wilkinson@ukhsa.gov.uk)

## World Health Organisation definition – sexual health

“a state of physical, emotional, mental and social well-being in relation to sexuality; it is **not merely the absence of disease**, dysfunction or infirmity. Sexual health requires a **positive and respectful approach to sexuality and sexual relationships**, as well as the possibility of having **pleasurable and safe sexual experiences, free of coercion, discrimination and violence**. For sexual health to be attained and maintained, the **sexual rights of all persons** must be respected, protected and fulfilled.”

# A life course approach – across the domains of public health

## Health Protection

e.g. Sexually transmitted infections (STI) & HIV surveillance to inform system improvement & service planning, responding to outbreaks

## Health Improvement

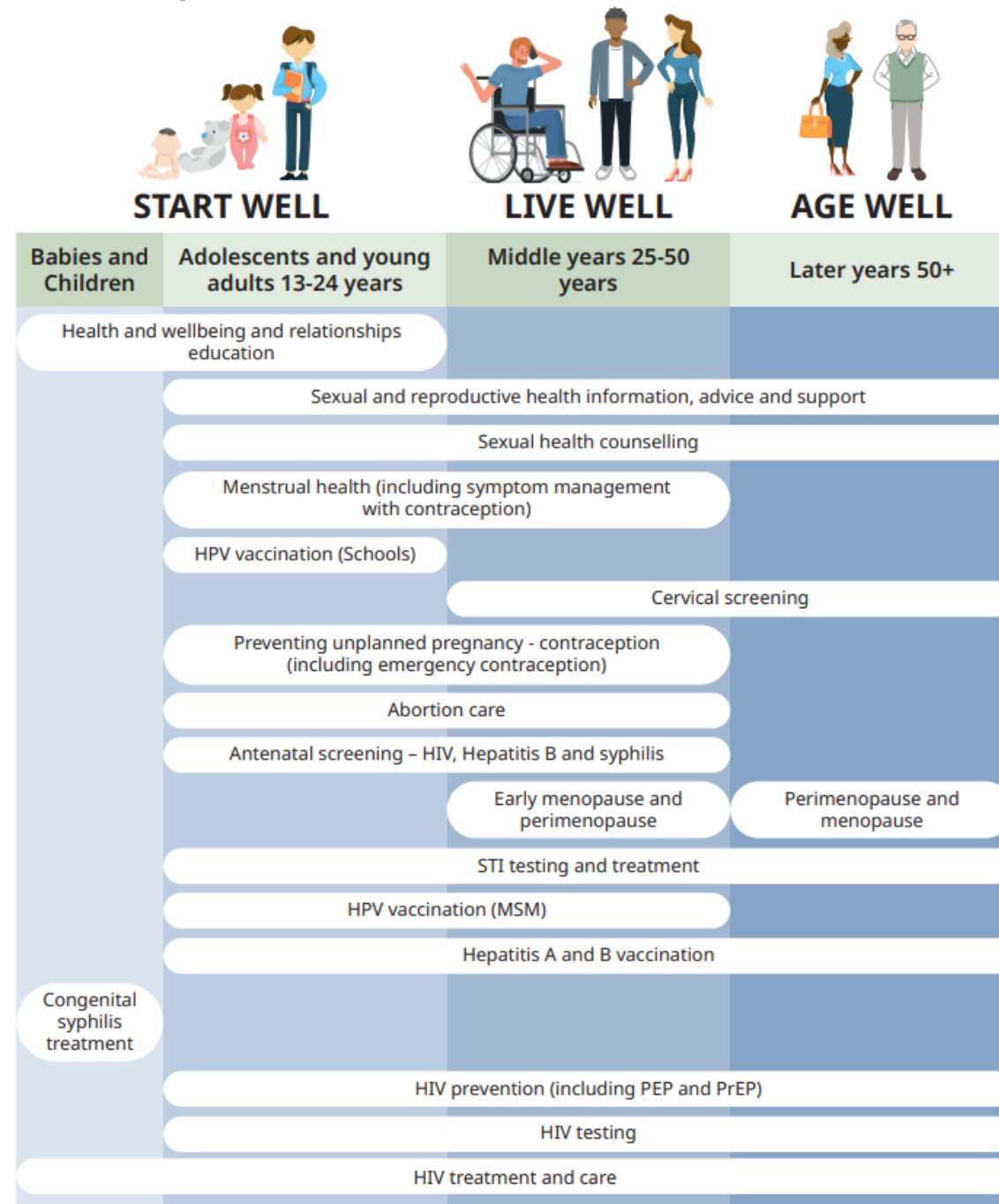
e.g. advice & support around sexual health and positive sexual relationships/ well-being, preventing unplanned pregnancy, preventing STIs

## Health Care

e.g. vaccinations for infections that can be transmitted through sexual contact, HIV treatment & care

Across all domains – a focus on inequality – some individuals and groups more at risk of negative outcomes or a lack of access

## Sexual, reproductive health and HIV across the life course



# Partnerships & system working – local, regional & national level

