

Vaccinator Training Course and Update

Next Vaccinator Training Course (VTC) will be 30th and 31st March 2010 in Nelson (providing at least 10 registrations are received). This course is for all vaccinators - to increase immunisation knowledge, understanding and skills, and for those who want to become an Authorised Independent Vaccinator.

After attending the 2 day VTC, a one hour open-book test is required (completed within the next week), and a clinical assessment (completed within 60 days of the VTC).

A VTC Update course will be held on March 30th in Nelson (5.30pm – 9.30pm), and 1st September 2010 in Blenheim. The VTC update is a 2-yearly requirement for trained vaccinators. An online Vaccinator Update is available as an alternative to this course.

Registration Forms for the VTC or update course can be obtained from Christine Holdaway christineh@marlboroughpho.org.nz or online at www.immune.org.nz

Authorised Independent Vaccinator Clinical Assessments

Those seeking Authorised Independent Vaccinator status for the first time, a Clinical Assessment is required. Clinical Assessment criteria can be found in the back of the VTC Workbook. The assessment involves a discussion about immunisation and also observation of 2 vaccination events to assess that immunisation standards are met.

For more information about this process or to arrange a Clinical Assessment, please contact Christine Holdaway, Immunisation Facilitator on 03 520 6212.

Immunisation Information for Parents / Caregivers and Patients

Good information to share with parents / care givers is important to support the informed consent process. A variety of well known pamphlets are available through www.healthed.govt.nz or from Public Health. Contact the Immunisation Facilitator if you have any queries.

Occasionally information does not meet the needs of the reader – we would like to hear what other information is required to support informed decision making and will attempt to source information that may help.

Referral of Children overdue for immunisations

The local Outreach Immunisation Coordinator is Sharon Osborne at Maataa Waka. After three attempts (including telephone & letters) to contact children in your practice who are overdue for immunisations, please refer to Sharon for Outreach follow-up. For referral forms and any further information phone Sharon Osborne 577 9256.

HPV Non-Responder Referral

Gaynor Rikihana, Maori HPV Tu Healthy Co-ordinator, will continue to work with general practices to facilitate an Outreach Vaccination Service for Maori, Pacific and Asian girls born 1990-1991 to ensure all 3 vaccinations are received. For other girls in general practice born 1990-1991 who have not completed HPV vaccinations and for whom recall attempts have been unsuccessful, the Public Health Service HPV Vaccination Team can follow up. The current OIS referral form (for the under 6's) is being modified for the purpose of referral for HPV OIS follow up and will be emailed to all general practices in the near future. In the interim, names and details of non-responders can be sent to the Immunisation Facilitator (fax 03 578 1198)

Cold Chain Reminder

- Take daily minimum and maximum vaccine fridge temperatures readings , preferably at the same time each day, & initial each recording.
- Download data logger at least monthly and review logger readings to identify cyclic and climate fluctuations.
- Vaccines must be stored between 2-8°C at all times. Temperatures outside of this may cause damage to vaccines, compromise the immune response, or cause an increased reaction.
- The Immunisation Handbook 2006 Page 116 outlines management of the vaccine cold chain & what to do when things go wrong. When in doubt, contact the Immunisation Facilitator!

Immunisation Clinical Reference Group

The second meeting of the Marlborough Immunisation Special Interest Group (MISIG) [originally called the Marlborough Immunisation Clinical Reference Group] was held 27th January 2010. A copy of the minutes has been circulated to those who attended, but if you would like a copy, please contact christineh@marlboroughpho.org.nz.

MISIG meetings will be held in the PHO boardroom from 12.30-1.30pm on these dates in 2010:

March 17th — May 19th — July 21st — September 15th — November 17th

Immunisation Partnership Group (IPG)

Immunisation within the Nelson Marlborough region is supported by the partnership of Nelson Bays Primary Health, Kimi Hauora Wairau PHO and NMDHB Public Health Service in the goal of delivering a timely National Immunisation Schedule locally. The IPG meet monthly to review progress, provide direction and clinical oversight to immunisation activities and to ensure opportunities to immunise are optimised. The IPG also meets regularly with the Immunisation Steering Group of the NMDHB to identify issues / concerns and to ensure continuity of immunisation services throughout the region.

Influenza Vaccination Strategy 2010

The Ministry of Health has declared a three stage approach to the Seasonal Influenza Immunisation Campaign for 2010. The seasonal influenza trivalent vaccine will not be available until as late as March 2010 but there is imminent risk of the re-emergence of H1N1 before this time, so initially a H1N1 specific vaccine will be rolled out, which will be followed by a trivalent seasonal influenza vaccine for at risk groups that meet criteria and then a wider roll out to the well +65 age group and the private market.

The Ministry strategy is:

stage	vaccine	timing	target groups
1. Targeted pandemic	Monovalent H1N1	start 8th February	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Eligible health care workers• those at risk of complications
3. Normal seasonal	seasonal trivalent	when sufficient seasonal vaccine arrives, likely late March	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• normal seasonal groups• extra eligible groups for 2010• all people over 65• open to private market

The H1N1 specific Monovalent Influenza Vaccine is in a multi-dose presentation (10 doses) and must be used within 3 hours of opening. Vaccinators are required to complete the online IMAC training programme for administration of multidose vials, available at <http://www.immune.org.nz/?t=1013>