

IMMUNISATION UPDATE

Non-Funded Influenza Vaccine (Influvac Tetra) – MoH update

Due to unprecedented demand for the 2020 influenza vaccine the MOH acquired the Northern Hemisphere Influvac Tetra vaccine. This vaccine is only to be used on those patients who are not eligible for a funded influenza vaccine. For eligibility criteria please visit www.influenza.org.nz

Strains in the Influvac Tetra (Saison 2019-2020) Northern Hemisphere

- A/Brisbane/02/2018 (H1N1)
- A/Kansas/14/2017 (H3N2)
- B/Colorado/06/2017 (B/Maryland/15/2016)
- B/Phuket/3073/2013 (B/Phuket/3073/2013 wild type)

Important comparison between 2020 Southern Hemisphere Influenza Vaccine and Influvac Tetra (2019/2020)

Two of these strains A/H1N1 and B/Phuket match the WHO strains for 2020 Southern Hemisphere influenza season.

There are two strains which do not match the NZ Afluria Quad vaccine. The advice from the MOH is:

- B/Colorado strain is likely to provide some protection against the B/Washington strain

The A/Kansas strain is unlikely to provide significant protection against the Southern Hemisphere strains. Discuss with your patients prior to administration.

Expiry Date

The Influvac Tetra product has the end of June 2020 expiry which is in line with the end of the influenza season in the Northern Hemisphere rather than the 12-month shelf life based on stability data. The MoH and PHARMAC have advised that the vaccine can be used for an additional 2 months detailed below.

Updated Expiry dates

Batch Number	Pack Size	Marked Expiry date	Updated Expiry date
T30	10	End June 2020	End August 2020
T41	1	End June 2020	End August 2020
T43A	1	End June 2020	End August 2020

Updated resources will be available on 1st October 2020 along with a new 2020 Childhood Immunisation Schedule.

The online Immunisation Handbook 2017 (2nd Edition) March 2018 has been updated to reflect the 1st July 2020 schedule changes. <https://www.health.govt.nz/publication/immunisation-handbook-2017>

CHANGES TO CBAC TESTING CENTRES

From Saturday 4 July, the following changes to COVID-19 community-based testing centres come into effect:

- Health New Lynn and Baderdrive Doctors, Manurewa are closing – please do not refer patients to these centres
- Langimalie Health Centre and Spectrum House will no longer operate at the weekend
- The Whanau Ora Community Clinic is open on Saturdays but will close for the day on Saturday 11 July

Please click the link for opening hours information from Saturday 4 July. [Metro AKLD Covid19 Testing-sites 4 July.pdf](#) (see attachment 1)

The remaining seven community-based testing centres continue to provide good geographical coverage and capacity for COVID-19 testing.

If you have any questions regarding the change in operating hours or closures please email Campbell Brebner – Chief Medical Advisor, Primary Care, Counties Manukau Health Campbell.Brebner@middlemore.govt.nz

EXTENSION OF TEMPORARY PRESCRIPTION WAIVERS DURING COVID-19

Temporary Exemption for Signatures on Prescriptions without NZePS (without an NZePS barcode)

In March 2020, the Director General of Health issued a temporary waiver for systems and settings which are not yet integrated to the NZePS eg, GPs on Profile for Mac and Profile for Windows and Best Practice.

This waiver was set to expire on the 25th of June 2020 however, Cabinet has extended the Covid-19 Notice for another 3 months and this will now expire on the 24th of September 2020. This extension enables systems and settings that are working towards NZePS integration to complete this work.

Appendix 1 has additional detail on the requirements that must be met for non-NZePS signature exempt prescriptions.

This temporary waiver does not affect NZePS Prescriptions (with barcode). The ability to generate signature exempt prescriptions when NZePS is used is an enduring capability subject to requirements detailed in **Appendix 2** being met.

If you have any questions or wish to provide feedback please email onlinehealthdesk@health.govt.nz or NZePS Change Manager trevor.lloyd@health.govt.nz

SWAB AND PPE ORDERING PROCESSES

SWABS

From 1 July 2020, Metro Auckland GPs can order COVID-19 testing swabs directly from Labtests using the standard consumables ordering process.

PPE

PPE stock ordering and supply will continue via Auckland PHO. If you have any urgent PPE stock requirements, email Priscilla - priscilla@aucklandpho.co.nz

MEDINZ EVALUATION SURVEY

The Medinz communication platform is how DHBs within the Northern Region currently communicate key messages to primary care. It has been in place for some time now, and it is important for us to again collect information on how it is working and how it could better meet the needs of users. Please click on the link below to provide feedback. It should only take up to 10 minutes of your time to complete.

The survey is divided into two sections. Questions 2-5 are about the recent Covid-19 emergency response, where the changing nature of the pandemic meant the frequency and priority of Medinz messages increased. Questions 6 onwards are questions about general Medinz use and usefulness.

[Medinz evaluation](#)

All feedback provided is non-identifiable. The survey will close **14 July 2020** and a summary of the evaluation will be made available upon request from Leanne Kirton Project Manager Primary Care – Auckland and Waitemata DHB Leanne.Kirton@waitematadhb.govt.nz

CPR TRAINING

Sessions are offered free of charge to our practice teams on:

Level 3

Date: Wednesday, 22 July 2020

Time: 6.30 - 8.30pm

Level 4 (full)

Date: Wednesday, 29 July 2020

Time: 6pm - 8.30pm

Level 5

Date: Wednesday, 5 August 2020

Time: 6pm - 9pm

Venue: Auckland PHO, Level 4, 210 Khyber Pass Road, Grafton

RSVP: to priscilla@aucklandpho.co.nz

WOUND CARE WORKSHOP FOR RNS/ENs

Date: 11th August 2020

Time: 9am – 1.30pm

Venue: Waitakere conference room, Waitakere Hospital

Topics:

- Innovations in wound care – biofilm based wound care management
- Palliative wound care management
- How to take a swab, a refresher, changes and why

Pantry wound care

RSVP to Sasha.mckinlay@waitematadhb.govt.nz

For more information, please see attachment (2).

RED WHALE WEBINAR SERIES

Red Whale is a comprehensive update for primary health care professionals: GPs, Primary Care Nurses, Nurse Practitioners, Pharmacists. Our GP's do all the legwork to bring you up to speed on the latest evidence and guidance.

This year is different from any other, and we want to make it easy and safe for you to stay fully up to date, so Red Whale 2020 is being presented as a webinar series over 4 nights in September.

Webinar weekly series:

Date: - 2, 9, 16 and 23 September 2020

Time 7.30pm weekly

This webinar series is for GPs, primary care nurses, nurse practitioners, nurse prescribers, pharmacists: anyone who wants to keep up to date across the whole field of primary care.

Further information and registration: [Click here](#)



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