

# IMMUNISATION FAST FACTS



10 MAR 2021

Welcome to the second edition of Auckland PHO's Immunisation Fast Facts. Since going to Press two weeks ago, a number of our General Practice Teams have been called up to receive their first COVID-19 vaccination. Many have enquired about the process for the second vaccination. We understand that the CIR (Covid Immunisation Register) has a recall system embedded. We have also developed a system in our internal PHO system to ensure people are recalled. Note that the timeframe between Covid vaccination is > three weeks.

If you have any questions about any of the topics in these Fast Facts, contact Shanaz Khan, Immunisation Services Coordinator for Auckland PHO – [shanaz@aucklandpho.co.nz](mailto:shanaz@aucklandpho.co.nz)

## **0800 immune**

For questions about immunisation and vaccination preventable diseases, call 0800 466 863 weekdays 9am-4.30pm

## **MMR Catch up programme**

Below are some questions been answered from those involved in the 2020/21 Measles Campaign.

### **DATA COLLECTION**

**Do we have to opt all patients born after 2005 on to the National Immunisation Register (NIR)?**

- Patients born before 2005 **must** be opted on to the NIR, otherwise vaccinations given will not message from the practice management system to the NIR and data will not be collected.
- Only opt on patients born before 2005 to the NIR when vaccinating either with MMR or any other vaccine (COVID-19 vaccine has a different process for the time being).
- Patients born after 2005 are already enrolled on the NIR
- All authorised vaccinators must enter vaccination records into the NIR unless the person receiving the vaccine chooses not to opt on to the NIR.
- Please record the numbers of people choosing not to opt on in the patient notes on the PMS as this will reflect the numbers of vaccinations more accurately being administered.

**Do we need to manually input historical data from Practice Management systems (PMS) into the NIR?**

The Ministry of Health has not asked for this. However, your DHB may have asked for this. Check with Shanaz-Immunisation Services Co-ordinator for further information if you are not sure.

### Some other handy tips!

- Check all patients are 'opted on' to the NIR when the event is entered.
- All practices need to ensure their new GPs are loaded on to their PMS.
- Check NIR Utilities box for failed messages – then correct and resend.
- Ensure the correct immunisation event is selected – be sure not to choose a childhood MMR from the children's schedule for an adult.

## CLINICAL QUESTIONS

### Do I need to know someone's MMR history before giving them another MMR vaccination?

Where possible, it is important to check if someone has previously been fully vaccinated for MMR. **However**, as long as you have carried out a pre-vaccine check (e.g. asking the patient 'have you had a vaccine in the past 4 weeks?', 'are you pregnant?'), then **there are no safety concerns with administering extra doses of MMR**. It is better to give another dose to be sure.

See advice from the Immunisation Advisory Centre (IMAC) and excerpt from the Immunisation Handbook below:

Excerpt from immunisation handbook 2020 12.5.2

*All persons born from 1 January 1969 with only one documented dose of prior MMR should receive a further dose of MMR; if there are no documented doses of prior MMR or documented evidence of immunity, then two doses should be administered, at least four weeks apart.*

### Can an opportunistic MMR vaccination be carried out on a casual patient?

MMR vaccine can be given to any eligible person for free. They do not need to be enrolled. If a non-enrolled patient presents to your practice, you will need to register them as a casual to ensure you get payment. Please do not charge an administration fee as this service is funded.

### The following are three frequently asked questions regarding the catch up for MMR vaccines

1) **Question:** If we have no record, and if the patient is unsure, can I give two MMR vaccines, one month apart?

**Answer:** YES, that's correct

2) **Question:** Do I enter this in Medtech under "MMR vaccine adult-eligible"?

**Answer:** YES, that's correct

3) **Question:** If we have records that show the patient has only had one MMR vaccine as a child (e.g., at 15 months), do I give one MMR vaccine as a booster?

**Answer:** YES, that's correct

## Videos targeting Pacific People

\*Note you'll need to enter the password.

	Medium resolution	High resolution
Measles Gamers	<a href="https://vimeo.com/517067464">https://vimeo.com/517067464</a> password: measlesgamers	<a href="https://vimeo.com/517084821">https://vimeo.com/517084821</a> pw: measlesgamers
Measles Chat	<a href="https://vimeo.com/517059906">https://vimeo.com/517059906</a> password: measleschat	<a href="https://vimeo.com/517072244">https://vimeo.com/517072244</a> pw: measleschat
Measles Family	<a href="https://vimeo.com/517062401">https://vimeo.com/517062401</a> password: measlesfamily	<a href="https://vimeo.com/517079138">https://vimeo.com/517079138</a> pw: measlesfamily

These were produced by Pacific social change agency, The Cause Collective.

## Videos targeting Māori

Two further video clips produced by kaupapa Māori agency Mahi Tahī are available here:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/13yC71ihJkFEf76fNGKQSOlpGotkb-G7v?usp=sharing>

### MEASLES MAN CLIP 1:

**Title: Keep your whānau safe from measles - get immunised!**

*Example copy*

Kia mataara e te iwi! Measles is an extremely infectious disease that we don't want to spread in our communities.

Getting immunised is the best way to keep measles away!

It's easy, and it's free - just head to your local GP or participating pharmacies.

If you have any pātai, have a kōrero with your local GP or health provider.

Be a Guardian of the Future. Immunise against measles.

Find out more at [protectagainstmeasles.org.nz](http://protectagainstmeasles.org.nz)

### MEASLES MAN CLIP 2

**Title: Keep your whānau safe from measles - get immunised!**

*Example copy*

E hoa mā, D'angelo's back with the info you need to know about getting protected against measles.

If you're between the age of 15 and 30 - GET IMMUNISED! It's the best way to protect yourself and your whānau.

Be a Guardian of the Future. Immunise against measles.

Find out more at [protectagainstmeasles.org.nz](http://protectagainstmeasles.org.nz)

## Pacific Fono

Many of you will be aware of the Regional Zoom Fono happening throughout this week following the success of last month's National Immunisation Fono (500+ attendees on zoom!). These are a collaboration between Ministry for Pacific Peoples and Ministry of Health with the support of the Pacific health sector. The purpose of these meetings is to give the Pacific community a chance to ask questions and get information from Pacific clinicians about MMR, influenza vaccines and COVID-19.

## 2021 Influenza Immunisation Programme

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We have received several queries about needles and the influenza vaccine.

### Are practices going to be required to buy the needles for the fluvax?

PHARMAC and the vaccine supplier, Seqirus, advise that providers will need to purchase needles for Afluria Quad and Flud Quad vaccines. Afluria Quad Junior will be supplied with needles attached. The needles will be available for order from EBOS for \$4.60/box of 100 (i.e. \$0.046 each) or your pharmacy wholesaler.

### If that is the case is there going to be an immunisation subsidy adjustment?

The immunisation subsidy is negotiated as part of the MoH/DHB/PHO process and is the same for all schedule vaccines. Many of these are already supplied in needle-free presentations. There are no plans to adjust the immunisation subsidy by \$46 cents at this time.

### Will the needles if ordered be supplied at the same time as the fluvax?

Needles should be ordered separately from EBOS and will be available before the programme start date. They are not being supplied directly from HCL this year, as this slows down vaccine distribution.

## COVID-19 Vaccination

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For those that could not join the IMACs webinar update on the COVID-19 vaccines' workforce education, please see the update below.

The image is a screenshot of a webinar presentation. The title is "COVID-19 vaccines rollout – IMAC Update". The presenters listed are Loretta Roberts (IMAC National Manager), Jane Morphet (IMAC COVID Clinical Education Manager), and Kimberley Ross (IMAC COVID Communications Manager). The date is 3 March 2021. The slide features a central play button icon and a collage of images: hands clasped together, a woman holding a baby, a dog running, and a person wearing safety glasses. Logos for The University of Auckland and The Immunisation Advisory Centre are visible at the bottom.